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## Welcome to our 9th edition of Bits & Bytes!

Welcome back to our popular bi-weekly newsletter.

As a previous customer, associate or perhaps someone we've met at a networking event, we wanted to provide you with a short summary of technology news and events that may be of interest to you.

Don't forget to listen to our **Soundbyte** at the bottom of the newsletter!

## WHAT ARE YOUR KIDS BROWSING?

One of the questions we get from even our business clients has to do with the best ways of protecting kids from dangerous or adult content on the web...especially when the kids in question need protection from themselves.

There are a number of means of monitoring and preventing access to sites, emails, files on the net, but Norton has a new tool that gives parents a whole new level of control... **and until 2010 it's available for free!**

OnlineFamily.Norton is an online tool that lets you set rules for all the computers in your home and how they can access websites, social networking, chat rooms, instant messaging, and much more.  
[www.onlinefamilywelcome.norton.com](http://www.onlinefamilywelcome.norton.com)

A parent need only create an online administration account, and use several preset templates to get the system up and running.

It requires the install of a small tool on each PC in your home and monitors access based on user accounts. If a user goes to a site that is blocked, it not only prevents access

## What is a Net Book?

The newest addition to mobile computing, Netbooks are small versions of laptops. They are truly the "notebook" size computers.



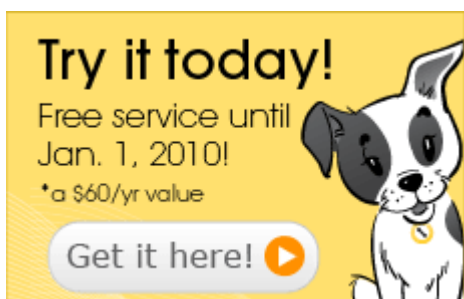
Netbooks are fully functional computers with full operating systems (such as Windows XP) but 10" or less in diameter, or less than 2lbs in weight.

They do sport all the normal laptop features such as usb ports, external video ports, sound, wifi and harddrives in the 60gb to 200gb ranges.

The biggest difference is that these units are designed for "light" usage meaning web surfing, checking email and mobile media viewing (movies, music etc).

They are not designed for full scale workstation replacement and therefore do not have built in

but also sends a message to the parent telling them of the attempt.



This works even if the computer isn't on the home network, preventing kids from bypassing the system by using a free wireless connection, or a friend's connection. You control anything that happens on their PC and can monitor it, while allowing you or older kids to have the access they need without interference.

Norton has made this new service free until 2010 and it's a great time to try it out and see if it can help if you have any kids with troubling internet habits. As it is still a free service, it is being tested and refined, but from our tests so far it does a good job at monitoring and preventing access to designated sites.

This simple and seamless system can be setup quite quickly and easily and even be administered remotely without any of the downsides to router based solutions.

If you have concerns about your kids and how they use the internet, this could be one solution that can help you keep their online safety a top priority.

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Today's Contributor:  
Jason Chiles  
905-471-0039 or  
[jason@fixmycomputernow.com](mailto:jason@fixmycomputernow.com)  
[www.fixmycomputernow.com](http://www.fixmycomputernow.com)

DVDroms or expansion capabilities.

They do have different processors and video capabilities so at the moment you wouldn't want to do any gaming or heaving programming with them, however with prices ranging from \$299 to \$499 they are almost in the "disposable" category.



I've had a chance to play with an Acer EZ model and was quite impressed with how well it was suited for surfing, watching movies and doing email.

I was also able to use full remote features like Windows RDP and rescue gateway applications which made it really attractive to us as technicians since we do a lot of work using remote platforms.

Lastly, depending on models, the battery life is HUGE. Some models with solid state drives can have up to 10 hours of full use and up to 48 hours of standby power. This makes them not only truly mobile, but they are competing on the cell phone scale.

If you combine these units with the new generation of 3G internet sticks or portable wireless internet devices, you truly can get a "notebook" style unit that can almost fit in your pocket.

My personal wish would have been to see Tablet PC's move in this direction to truly make the netbook class of units a mobile platform that can go into the next generation of computing.

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Today's Contributor:  
Arthur Kaljian  
905-471-0039 or [arthur@fixmycomputernow.com](mailto:arthur@fixmycomputernow.com)  
[www.fixmycomputernow.com](http://www.fixmycomputernow.com)

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## SOUNDBYTES!

In today's edition, we talk about: **Blackberry Apps!**

Click the button to Play! 

### FREE DOWNLOADS

[Firefox Web Browser](#)

[MalwareByte Anti-Malware Software](#)

[Bandwith Test](#)



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Phone: (905) 471-0039 Email: [info@fixmycomputernow.com](mailto:info@fixmycomputernow.com)

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