

Tip for February 2009
Courtesy of Wyvern Technology
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There has been a lot in the news lately about protecting your children from adults only sites and predators. There exists no easy way to do this, even though governments urge the use of filters. These are very easy to overcome if you really want to and kids really want to.

The best thing you can do is to

1. have the computer in a public place in your home.
2. discuss with your children the rules you insist on when accessing the internet. If your children go ahead and ignore you, then you can lock* the computer from their use except when you are around.

** Disable the Fast User switching*

Once you as the parent are logged on and you must have a password, hold down the Windows logo key and tap the L key. The computer is now locked. To unlock the computer, you need to type in the parent's password

To check what sites they have been on, search for the temporary internet files and cookies (Start – Search – all files and folders – type in either temp internet files or cookies) – this will give you a list of sites that have been accessed.

A lot of parents are understandably worried about chat rooms – explain to your children that they must never give away any personal details like where they live and their phone number.

Some solutions

Recently a client turned on their computer to find that the screen was upside down. Control + Alt + the up arrow key fixed this

Another client had pop ups blocked but wanted to make an exception just the one time. Holding down control while clicking on the link that created the pop up will achieve this.

It is a good idea to run a complete antivirus scan regularly – just to catch any nasty that snuck through.

Cheers,
Deirdree