



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As I wrote last month, **New postage rates go into effect May 14th.** The new postage rate for the first ounce **letter** goes up to 41 cents. **Large envelopes** start at 80 cents. Second and third ounce drops to 17 cents. Four ounce pieces will cost \$1.31 to mail plus 17 cents for each additional ounce up to 13 ounces. Postcards will increase to 26 cents and Priority mail starts at \$4.60

Note that Letters (up to 6 x 11.5 inches and less than 4 ounces) have different rates from Large Envelopes (up to 12 x 15). For a complete rate sheet, I suggest you print out pages 1 & 20 from http://pe.usps.com/RateCase2007/Notice123_PDF/Notice123.pdf

I often get asked what is the typical life span of a computer. Here's my experience:

Life cycle of a computer

- **Years 1 - 3:** Your computer runs great. If something fails, you replace it under warranty.
- **Years 3 - 4:** Something gives out or reaches its capacity. A fan, a hard drive, the power supply or perhaps you need more memory. You angst over the decision whether to fix or upgrade or to put that money towards a new computer as the warranty expired last year. Most people spend less than \$100 to fix or upgrade even though they know their computer is reaching the end of its useful life.
- **Years 4 - 5:** Something else gives out or fills up. You again angst over the decision whether to fix or upgrade the old, slow computer or to put that money towards a new computer. Most people buy a new computer.
- **Years 5 - 6:** Your computer is running real slow, productivity is being impacted, you cannot install the latest version of your software. You're forced to replace the computer.

and here's the current **Status of Microsoft's Windows Operating Systems:**

Windows XP:

Microsoft will "retire" full support for XP Home and Professional on April 14, 2009, two years from now. XP will continue to work after that date, of course. But you can think of April 14, 2009, as the date when Microsoft's support attentions will turn away from XP. For the next five years thereafter (until 2014), on-line self-help for XP (e.g., the Knowledge Base) will remain available. Microsoft may, if it chooses, continue to release critical patches and updates.

Windows 2000 Professional Edition:

Microsoft "retired" full support for Windows 2000 Professional Edition on June 30, 2005. For the next three years (until 7/13/2010), security updates and on-line self-help (e.g., the Knowledge Base) will remain available.

Windows 98 and Windows 98 Second Edition:

Microsoft ended all support for Windows 98 and Windows 98 Second Edition, as well as all components (such as Internet Explorer and Windows Media Player) on July 11, 2006.

California **SB 1613** limits the use of cellular phones while driving to those that have hand-free operation except for drivers in law enforcement, public safety agencies and certain commercial vehicles. The law takes effect on July 1, 2008.

How to Clean a White Board

Put some rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol on a paper towel and rub vigorously for a couple of seconds, then wipe dry. (Commercial Dry-Erase cleaners are often just formulations that contain rubbing alcohol.)

For more difficult stains, use ordinary car wax. Use as directed on the can, except apply the wax without water. You may have to buff pretty hard to remove the stains. Finish by wiping the surface with rubbing alcohol.

Please let me know if you'd rather not receive this newsletter or, if you received multiple copies, which e-mail address to delete.

Charlie Kleiman

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