

Dirty computer? How and why to keep yours clean



Gizmotechs in the field get to see a lot of computers in all sorts of conditions. Recently we've come across a number of really dirty computers. Sometimes we open them up and stare in amazement – we cannot work out how the computer has continued to function covered in so much dust.

Gizmo does not recommend opening up your computer unless you're confident in doing so and we are definitely not suggesting that you should get out the Mr Muscle spray and give your capacitors a squeaky clean – that would be a very very bad idea. The best we can suggest is keeping the room that your computer lives in clean and dust free.

Computers usually have a minimum of two or three fans. As a result they are constantly sucking in and spitting out air to cool down components. If that air is filled with dust then eventually – as you can see in the pictures below – the computer gets covered in a grimy layer of sticky green dust which can cause shorts and overheating.

While dust is not necessarily bad for your computer in small doses, when it piles up to chronic levels it can start to cause problems. Dust mites may even eat up your silicon chips and layers of dust can cause components to overheat and fail. Ok, so we've never had a microscope lying around to see if these little dudes actually exist, but we're told they do and they look quite nasty.

If your worried about your computer being overly dirty give us a call on 1300 275 449.



Above: Hint...there should not be a solid layer of dust here.



Above: Notice the discoloration and spider webs growing on the left hand side.

This article applies to:



Windows Vista

