WACUG
PC Disk of the Month
May 2005

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Office Programs:
    1. EasyOffice

| **Agent Ransack V1.7.3** | Free | Agentran.exe | 792 KB |

It's not always easy to remember the exact file name of a document, and opening each file to look inside wastes a lot of time. Agent Ransack displays the text found inside each file, so you don't have to separately open each search result.

You can also search for text inside of documents using this application. Agent Ransack integrates into the Windows Find menu, so it can easily replace the File Search function included with Windows.

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| **Aqua Dock 1.0** | Free | Aqua.exe | 738 KB |

Aqua Dock gives PCs a dash of Mac-fashioned goodness, imitating OS X's animated launchbar. When you run your mouse over the bar, it reacts, expanding the icons for the items you mouse over. This helps you be absolutely sure you know what you're opening.

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| **Arcade Classic Arcade Pack V3.5** | Free | Arcade-3.5.exe | 530 KB |

Thanks to Arcade Classic Arcade Pack, you can relive the days when times were simple and games were simpler yet. This pack includes Asteroids, PacMan, Pong, Snake, and Space Invaders. All are lovingly recreated, right down to the sound. With the online score-taking function, you can compete against other nostalgia-ridden gamers.

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| **Avast V4.5** | Free | setupeng.exe | 8,381 KB |

Avast Home Edition doesn't just scan your hard drive from time to time--it attacks viruses at their preferred points of invasion. This antivirus program uses resident protection for real-time protection from the viruses that would board your pc. You can set it to scan your e-mail, your auto-start items, and now several instant messaging and P2P programs. Avast scans IM programs Windows/MSN Messenger, ICQ, Yahoo Messenger, AOL Instant Messenger (AIM), mIRC and Trillian.

This edition of Avast goes beyond virus detection; it also scrubs the decks clean of the scurvy knaves.

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Back4Win   Free   Back4win.exe   896 KB

Back4Win lets you customize your backup so your PC's downtime is minimized. Its variable compression rate gets the best backup speed for every supported OS. It lets you make disk-spanning files and restore damaged backups, too.

This version of Back4Win contains no spyware or advertising.

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Back It Up V5.4.9.125   Free   Backup.exe   1665 KB

Back It Up helps keep your data safe by compressing and archiving the files that you choose. When something goes awry, you can go back to the previous snapshot of your system. There are options that allow you to delete specified files by choosing the files' extension. You can also schedule backups to run unattended.

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Bulk Rename Utility V2.1.10.10   Free   bru.zip   408 KB

With this utility, you can rename groups of files or folders in one swoop. You can perform string substitutions, add date stamps, add or remove specified digits or characters, and make other useful changes. A preview shows you what the new names will be.

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CableNut V4.08   Free   cablenut408.exe   826 KB

Does your Internet connection seem sluggish lately? CableNut optimizes your Windows TCP/IP stack, enabling you to tweak your Internet connection, whether you connect via cable, DSL, dialup or satellite. The program provides custom setting files that tweak your TCP registry entries, or lets you define your own settings. An online forum is available to help troubleshoot your connection problems.

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Cheetah DVD Burner V1.35   Free to try - $25 to Buy   CheetahDVDBurner.exe   11,699 KB

Cheetah Burner lets you burn every imaginable type of DVD file, including dual layer DVD+R, DVD+RW, DVD+R, DVD-R, DVD-RW, and DVD-RAM. The program also burns to CD-R and CD-RW discs. You can erase CDs and DVDs. Finally, the program includes an Audio CD Ripper

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Cobian Backup   Free   Cbu6setup.exe   4,482 KB

Let Cobian Backup back up files and directories automatically on the schedule you choose--without losing the ability to back files up manually. You can keep everyone else up to date on recent changes by backing up not only to your own PC and others on its network, but to your FTP server. Integrated .zip compression abilities let you make backups that consume less space.

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CPUcool V7.2.10   Free to Try, $15 to Buy   cpucool9.exe   1,753 KB

CPUcool is a set of very tiny system utilities that you can use to tweak the settings of your CPU and motherboard. CPUcool monitors the temperature, fan speed and voltages for many motherboards (check supporting files for supported systems). It includes a utility for shutting down the PC with a single key combination, and a basic optimizer for Cyrix, AMD and Intel chipsets. A newly included option allows for varying the CPU frequency via the SMBus.

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CROA V1.5   Free   croa.zip   286 KB

When you copy data from a CD-ROM to your PC, of course they copy as read-only. This may not a problem at first, but if you want to work on those files, you've got a lot of manual retagging ahead of you--file by file by file. CROA allows you to remove the read-only flags from folders, subfolders, and files and get down to business. Once installed, it's easy to access from Window's context menu

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CursorXP V1.3.1   Free   cursorxp_free.exe   2,328 KB

Cursor XP is a utility that allows you to jazz up the cursors you use to mouse around with Windows. CursorXP integrates tightly into Windows, providing you with additional tabs on your Mouse control panel that let you access additional features. You can improve the look of your cursor by choosing graphical, animated options. You can add special effects that come to life when you click or take other actions.

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CWShredder V2.1   Free   CWShredder.exe   454 KB

Even if your PC has Ad-aware and Spybot Search & Destroy, you still can't stop some versions of an insidious and virus-like pest called CoolWebSearch. Fortunately, a Dutch student who goes simply by the name Merijn wrote a tiny free tool called CWShredder that specializes in removing dozens of CWS variants. InterMute bought the program and now maintains it.

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DivX Video for Windows V5.1.1   Free   DivX511 Bundle.exe   5,309 KB

Watch movies that have been compressed using DivX, and create your own DivX files from DVDs or other digital video files saved on your PC. DivX uses the MPEG-4 format, which allows videos to be compressed to about 15 percent of the size of a standard DVD. This in turn lets you fit your videos on a Zip disk, burn them on a CD, upload them to a file sharing network, or play them over the Web. This latest release features a free DivX Player.

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DoubleKiller V1.5.2.64   Free   doublekiller.zip   375 KB

DoubleKiller hunts across single or multiple partitions and folders for identical files. It skips over files with important extensions like .dll, but it scans other files for duplicates. It checks the files' names, sizes, dates, and CRC32-checksums to see if any of them mirror one another. Once DoubleKiller locates the duplicates, it shows you a list of all of them so you can decide which ones to keep and which ones to delete or move.

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EasyOffice V7   Free   easyoffice.exe   94,873 KB

EasyOffice includes word processing, spreadsheet, database, e-mail, contact management, and presentation applications. Its programs are compatible with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Adobe PDF, HTML, and .zip files; it includes English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Portuguese, Swedish, medical, and legal dictionaries.

EasySpreadsheet features one-click e-mailing of your spreadsheets. EasyPresentation creates slide presentations. EasyContactManager helps you to produce customized form letters and track appointment dates; its contact lists can be exported in Excel format. Among the usual word processing tasks, EasyOffice can create PDF files. EasyOffice also includes add-ons such as EasyCalculator financial calculator and the financial program EasyZip.

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Eudora V6.2.1   Free   Eudora_621.exe   9,310 KB

Qualcomm's popular e-mail client manages multiple e-mail accounts and handles just about any attachment you're likely to receive. A robust search feature lets you find messages archived a long time ago. You can use a word processor when you're composing messages, so you can check spelling, format text, and choose a font. The program features group file-sharing, support for Palm devices, and a flame detector that rates the contents of your mail on a scale of zero to three chili peppers.

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EZBack-it-up V2.0.1   Free   EZBackitup_setup.exe   1,474 KB

EZBack-it-up backs up your data where and when you tell it to do it. It can compare thousands of files in mere seconds. Check EZBack-it-up's logs to see what it's done.

If you like EZBack-it-up, please send money to the developer to cover the cost of further development.

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Fast Defrag   Free   Fastdefrag2.exe   482 KB

PC speed at a crawl? It may be because your data is so scattered, your PC doesn't know where to look. Fast Defrag defragments your hard drive to free up RAM. Not only does this speed up your computer, it increases your system's stability. This defragger uses little of your system's valuable resources.

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File Sieve V.097   Free   FileSieve.zip   28 KB

File Sieve creates 27 directories labeled # through Z and sorts files from the source directory you choose into them. It checks the first character in the file names and sorts them

alphabetically into the correct folders. This saves you time and fuss, and it makes sure every file gets into the right folder.

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FireBurner V2.2.1   Free   fb221we.exe   621 KB

FireBurner is a CD-RW burning program that lets you create data, audio, or mixed-mode CDs. FireBurner can burn audio tracks without converting MP3s to WAVs. The program communicates with your IDE or SCSI recording devices via any ASPI interface without the need for bulky drive databases. FireBurner runs on both Linux and Windows.

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Flash Movie Extractor Scout Lite V1.6   Free   FlashMovieExtractorScout.exe   1,017 KB

This video utility can extract and play any Flash movie still in your Microsoft Internet Explorer cache. Flash Movie Extract Pilot brings up a list of all Flash movies stored in your cache. Select any of them and watch it in the same window.

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FreeRAM XP V1.4   Free   framxpro.zip   544 KB

FreeRAM XP frees and defragments your computer's random access memory. As you use your computer, open applications, surf the Internet, and navigate Windows, your system's memory usually decreases. FreeRAM XP Pro frees up this memory, thereby increasing system response time, stability, speed, and efficiency.

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GeoShell V4.11   Free   GeoShell_R4.1_Installer.exe   1,044 KB

GeoShell, a replacement shell, lets you customize the Windows Explorer interface. Its GeoBars can be placed anywhere, making navigation more comfortable.

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HijackThis V1.99   Free   hijackthis.zip   194 KB

Detect and remove components that help hijackers change your browser's home page. HijackThis includes a dozen checks against hijacker tricks. The program does not target specific programs/URLs; instead, it protects you against the methods used by hijackers to force you onto their sites. The program is continually updated to detect and remove new hijacks.

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IEScroll   Free   iescroll.zip   272 KB

Researching anything online can make you long for a way to navigate the profusion of browser windows from your keyboard. This little utility gives you a "page to next IE window" key. It elevates the lowly (and rarely used) Scroll Lock key from disuse, converting it to an Internet Explorer-specific window switcher.

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ISpeed V3.55   Free to Try $ 11 to Buy   issetup.exe   2,856 KB

Working with a dial-up connection, you don't necessarily have to have the most glacial performance in the world. Alter your Registry settings with ISpeed, and increase the rate of throughput of your Internet connection. Get faster Web browsing, faster downloads, and quicker action for Internet multiplayer games. Use this tool to reset your MTU, RWIN, TLL, and other obscure Registry entries. After you reboot, use the program's benchmarking features to see the difference.

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KeyTweak V2.11   Free   KeyTweak_install.exe   203 KB

Remap your keyboard with KeyTweak. This utility lets you change the function of almost any key. (Note: This software may not work with some wireless keyboards.)

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Motherboard Monitor V5.3.6   unk   MBM5370.exe   1,253 KB

This handy program reads temperature and fan RPM data collected by your system's BIOS, displays it in the Microsoft Windows system tray, and alerts you when there's trouble. You can use this application to manage your resources and alarms by doing things like setting an alarm to go off, or having an e-mail sent to another computer, when your motherboard starts to overheat. You could even have programs start and stop when your CPU reaches predetermined temperatures.

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MusicMatch Jukebox V10   Free   musicmatch10.exe   368 KB

Musicmatch Jukebox is an all-in-one digital audio management tool that rips, mixes, burns, organizes, and plays music. The program has a "faster ripping" feature that lets you extract files from CDs and save them as WAVs or MP3s; you can then burn your digital files to CD-R or CD-RW. The program lets you transfer your music files to your portable devices.

Among other things, this version lets you buy tracks from all five major labels and more than 30 independents. Within the program, you can then burn the files to CD and transfer them to your MP3 player.

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Nero InfoTool V3.6.1   Free   NeroCD Speed_361.zip   527 KB

Do those no-name CD-Rs really record data at the speed they claim? Check it out with Nero's free tool. InfoTool specifies the write speeds, supported formats, and other information on every CD or DVD drive in your system. It examines the hardware as well as on the media in your drives. This version lets you burn Nero image files instead of predefined data.

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PolderBackup V2.7   Free   Polderbackup.exe   549 KB

PolderBackup lets you back up your data in .zip format. You can select all your data, or you can exclude certain files. PolderBackup can do incremental backup, so you back up only what's changed.

If you like the program, you can donate to Polderweg Animal Welfare shelter in honor of the author's cat, Chita. See the author's site for details. In addition, the developer has chosen to no longer continue development of the program; however, it does work.

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Process Explorer V9.0   Free   Procexpnt9.zip   268 KB

Windows Task Manager tells you what applications and processes are running, but some process names aren't very clear to the casual reader. Process Explorer helps you get to the bottom of things by digging down to see which application started a process and which resources that app is currently using. This excavation can be a big help when you're trying to figure out which background processes you dare shut down. It can even help sniff out spyware, too.

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Secretmaker 3.9.8.1   Free   SecretMakersetup.exe   922 KB

Although this neat suite looks like one program, it's made of eight privacy-defending programs. All-in-One Secretmaker includes Spam Fighter Pro, Worm Hunter, Pop-Up Killer, Banner Blocker, Cookie Eraser, Privacy Protector, History Cleaner, and Garbage Cleaner.

Most of these names are obvious, but a few require explanation. Worm Hunter isn't a virus detector, but a program that slows down mass mailings to prevent the spread of e-mail viruses. Privacy Protector sends out dummy data for your PC so hackers can't get a lock on your system

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SmartBarXP V0.991   Free   SmartbarXP_0.991_BETA4.9.exe   4,775 KB

SmartBarXP lets you configure a bar full of panes for your most crucial Internet information and your desktop and system status. SmartBarXP lets you host Explorer shortcuts, a clipboard, your Recycle Bin, and other important desktop components. You can even have it keep tabs on your PC with a motherboard monitor.

SmartBarXP's translucency and XP theme work in Windows XP only.

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SnapFolders 2005 V11.1   Free   SnapFolders_2005_Setup.exe   1,180 KB

Of course you know how to make shortcuts to folders, but the shortcut function has changed little since the days of Windows 95. SnapFolders helps you create faster, more powerful shortcuts. Instead of forcing all shortcuts to open the target folder in a folder window, SnapFolders gives you the choice of having shortcuts open in Explorer windows with the target folder either selected or as the root folder. SnapFolders' shortcuts automatically appear on the Start Menu; from there, you can copy, move, rename, or delete them

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Startup Control Panel V2.9   Free   StartupCPL.zip   58 KB

This applet allows you to automatically launch programs when your system starts up. Of course, you can do that manually, by changing entries in your Registry. But this program's simple interface lets you avoid that confusion.

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Startup-Mechanic V2.2   Free   Mechanic-2.2.exe   646 KB

This security program finds data miners, adware, and tracking software and gets rid of them, protecting your system resources and your privacy. Startup-Mechanic also sniffs out obsolete programs and unused junk, helping you streamline your system. With the backup archive viewer

and the recycle bin storage, you'll have a cooling-off period in which you can decide if you want your files back. Boot protection keeps unsavory programs from launching when you start your PC.

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| **Statbar V2.406** | Free | Statbarsetup.exe | 1,694 KN |

Statbar stuffs info on several crucial PC functions into one svelte status bar. With Statbar, you can keep an eye on your hard disk space, your CPU usage, and the amount of data transferring to and from your PC. Statbar also offers controls such as program launch buttons, a master volume slider, and WinAmp audio controls.

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| **SyncBack V3.2.4** | Free | SyncBack_Setup.zip | 1,730 KB |

SyncBack simplifies the process of backing up your files while offering a number of options and features. The program integrates with Windows Scheduler so you can schedule automated backups easily. You can back up or sync your files to another drive, directory, or network. SyncBack creates detailed HTML log files for your review and verifies that files are copied correctly. It lets you run simulations, include and exclude based on file types, exclude specific files, and select which subdirectories to back up.

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| **TClockEx V1.4.2** | Free | tclockex.exe | 457 KB |

This author of this program wrote it out of frustration at the taskbar clock for not showing the date. His nifty little freeware program, TClockEx, changes that, and adds more features to it, as well. It lets you change the font size and color of your clock; you can display available memory and system resources; you can even use the program to copy the date to your Clipboard. This update, which includes bug fixes, will give you a warning if the Windows Resource Meter applet is not available.

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| **Trace** | Free | TRACE.exe | 5,931 KB |

The Trace utility gives you a security risk rating on the presence of hidden information in your Microsoft Office documents. Among other things, it looks for server names, macros, e-mail addresses, tracked changes, and comments. It works with Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

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| **Transbar V1.2** | Free | transbar_setup.exe | 302 KB |

Transbar harnesses the Alpha Transparency feature in Windows XP to let you tweak the transparency level of your taskbar. You can make the taskbar completely see-through, letting it blend with your desktop.

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| **Trillian Free V3** | Free | trillion30.exe | 9,413 KB |

Trillian lets keep in contact with your friends whether they use IRC, AOL, ICQ, MSN, or Yahoo. The features from each service are retained, so you can search for buddies, set your status as

available or unavailable, change your passwords, and so on, without having to leave the program. You can also change this program's look by downloading (or creating your own) skins.

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Video Edit Magic V4.04   Free to try $70 to Buy   videoeditmagic.exe   10,537 KB

With this software you can edit and add effects to videos, and create VCD and DVD output. You can capture videos using any USB or Firewire input device, add transitions and a score, overlay videos, and save the media files in a choice of formats including AVI, MPEG, WMV, WMA, QuickTime, and DV AVI. You can even export the video to any digital video camera. The program also saves still images in several formats, including bitmap, GIF, JPEG, TGA and Mode 2 (uncompressed RGB).

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Winamp V5.06   Free   winamp506_lite.exe   741 KB

This popular audio program saves playlists and equalizer settings. The special skins and dozens of color schemes keep it looking good.

In addition to playing CDs and most other digital audio formats (.wav, MID, MOD), Winamp lets you save equalizer settings for specific songs. The program also has a minibrowser that lets you view biographies and photos, and you can sign up for 3GB of free Internet music storage. Integrated Internet TV and radio round out the functions. You can burn to CD with Winamp--at 2X

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Winguard Pro 2005 V5.8   Free   wgpro.exe   1,981 KB

Password protect your programs, windows, and Web pages. Winguard Pro also lets you encrypt your personal files and folders. Finally, you can lock your desktop, boot keys and task keys; you can also block software installations and Internet access.

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WinPatrol V9.0   Free   wpsetup.exe   1,011 KB

WinPatrol gives you greater control over what can run on your machine. You can set it to display additional information about--and approve of--startup programs. You'll also be alerted when something tries to load an IE plug-in or set a cookie. And to get rid of a particularly nasty piece of spyware, you can use the "Delete File on Reboot" feature, so Windows will get rid of it before any other program can protect it or relaunch it.

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ZoneAlarm Free V5.5   Free   zlsSetup_55_062_004.exe   6,500 KB

With the ZoneAlarm firewall you can block uninitiated and unwanted traffic, even while your PC is unattended or while you're not using your connection. You can also limit your exposure to attack by specifying which applications can access the Internet. The program lets you stop e-mail-borne Visual Basic Script worms.