Lecture 4: Windows 7: Personalizing Your Computer

Personalizing Your Computer:

Click Start \rightarrow Control Panel \rightarrow Appearance and Personalization \rightarrow Personalization to view how you can customize Windows 7. (You can also access these options by right-clicking the desktop and clicking **Personalize**).

					x
Control Panel +	Appearance and Personalization	 Personalization 	👻 🍫 Search Contr	ol Panel	Q
Control Panel Home Change desktop icons	Change the visuals an Click a theme to change the	d sounds on your c desktop background, win	omputer Idow color, sounds, and scre	een saver all at once.	0
Change mouse pointers Change your account picture	My Themes (0) Aero Themes (7)		G	et more themes online	M
	Windows 7	Architecture	Characters	Landscapes	
	The and	aller			-
See also Display	- 79				
Taskbar and Start Menu Ease of Access Center	Desktop Background	Window Color	Sounds Windows Default	Screen Saver	
			Contraction of Contraction	Home	

Themes:

A theme includes a *desktop background*, a *screen saver*, a window border color, *sounds*, and sometimes *icons* and *mouse pointers*. You can choose from several *aero* themes. Use the whole theme or create your own customized theme by changing the pictures, colors, and sounds individually.



Sounds:

You can change the sounds your computer makes when, for example, you receive *e-mail*, *start Windows*, or *shut down* your computer.

Desktop background:

The *desktop background*, also called *wallpaper*, is a picture, color, or design on the desktop. It provides a backdrop to your open windows. You can choose one picture to be your desktop background or you can display a slide show of pictures.



Screen saver:

A screen saver is a *picture or animation* that appears on the screen when you haven't used the mouse or keyboard for a set period of time. You can choose from a variety of *Windows screen savers*.

Mouse:

A *mouse* typically has *two buttons*: a *primary button* (*usually the left button*) and a *secondary button* (*usually the right button*). You will use the primary button most often. Most mice also include a *scroll wheel* between the buttons to help you scroll through documents and webpages more easily. On some mice, the scroll wheel can be pressed to act as a *third button*.



To change how the mouse pointer looks:

- 1. Right-click on empty space on *desktop*, and select *personalize*.
- 2. Click on *change mouse pointers*.
- 3. Click the *Pointers tab*, and then do one of the following:
 - To give all of your pointers a new look, click the *Scheme drop-down list*, and then click a new mouse pointer scheme.
 - To change an individual pointer, under *Customize*, click the pointer you want to change in the list, click Browse, click the pointer you want to use, and then click Open.
- 4. Click *OK*.

Buttons Pointers Pointer Options	Wheel Hardware	Device Settings		
Scheme Windows Aero (extra large) (system scheme) Save As Delete				
Customize:				
Normal Select				
Help Select		28 =		
Working In Background				
Busy		\bigcirc		
Precision Select				
Enable pointer shadow	Use Default	Browse		
Allow themes to change mouse pointers				
<u>-</u>	ОК	Cancel Apply		

To change how the mouse pointer works:

- 1. Right-click on empty space on *desktop*, and select *personalize*.
- 2. Click the *Pointer Options tab*, and then do any of the following:
 - To change the speed at which the mouse pointer moves, under Motion, move the *Select a pointer speed* slider toward Slow or Fast.
 - To make the pointer work more accurately when you're moving the mouse slowly, under Motion, select the *Enhance pointer precision* check box.
 - To speed up the process of selecting a choice when a dialog box appears, under Snap To, select the *Automatically move pointer to the default button* in a dialog box check box.

- To make the pointer easier to find when you move it, under *Visibility*, select the *Display pointer trails* check box, and then move the slider toward Short or Long to decrease or increase the length of the pointer trail.
- 3. Click *OK*.

Buttons	Pointers Pointer Options Wheel Hardware 🚺 Device Settings
Motion	
and and	Select a pointer speed:
- 0	Slow Fast
	Enhance pointer precision
- Snap T	0
3	Automatically move pointer to the default button in a dialog box
Visibility	,
See.	Display pointer trails
	Short Long
	✓ Hide pointer while typing
R	Show location of pointer when I press the CTRL key
	OK Cancel Apply

Date and Time:

- 1. *Click the Date and Time tab*, and then click *Change date and time*. In the Date and Time Settings dialog box, do one or more of the following:
 - To change the *hour*, double-click the hour, and then click the arrows to increase or decrease the value.
 - To change the *minutes*, double-click the minutes, and then click the arrows to increase or decrease the value.
 - To change the *seconds*, double-click the seconds, and then click the arrows to increase or decrease the value.
- 2. When you have finished changing the time settings, click **OK**.
- 3. To change the time zone, click *Change time zone*.
- 4. In the *Time Zone Settings* dialog box, click your current time zone in the drop-down list, and then click *OK*.



Sticky Notes:

You can use *Sticky Notes* to write a to-do list, jot down a phone number, or do anything else that you'd use a pad of paper for. *To open it*, click on *Start Orb* \rightarrow *All Programs* \rightarrow *Accessories* \rightarrow *Sticky Notes*.



🖽 On-Screen Keyboard:

On-Screen Keyboard displays a visual keyboard with all the standard keys. You can select keys using the **mouse**. **To open it**, click on **Start Orb** \rightarrow **All Programs** \rightarrow **Accessories** \rightarrow **Ease of Access** \rightarrow **On-Screen Keyboard**.

H Magnifier:

Magnifier enlarges different parts of the screen. This is especially useful for viewing objects that are difficult to see, but also for seeing the whole screen more easily. *Start Orb* \rightarrow *All Programs* \rightarrow *Accessories* \rightarrow *Ease of Access* \rightarrow *Magnifier*.

There are three modes:

- *Full-screen mode.* In full-screen mode, your entire screen is magnified. You can then have Magnifier follow the mouse pointer.
- *Lens mode.* In lens mode, the area around the mouse pointer is magnified. When you move the mouse pointer, the area of the screen that's magnified moves along with it.
- **Docked mode.** In docked mode, only a portion of the screen is magnified, leaving the rest of your desktop in a normal state. You can then control which area of the screen is magnified.

Notes:

- Full-screen mode and lens mode are only available as part of the *Aero* experience. If your computer doesn't support Aero, or if you're using a *theme* other than an *Aero* theme, *Magnifier will only work* in *docked* mode.
- 1. On the *Views* menu, click the mode that you want to use.
- 2. Move the pointer to the part of the screen that you want to *magnify*.

Notes:

- To *exit Magnifier*, press the *Windows logo key +Esc*.
- When you're using *full-screen mode*, you can quickly preview your entire desktop by clicking the *Views* menu, and then clicking *Preview full screen*.