



WRITING - ANDY'S HOW-TO, FROM THE NOT SO OBVIOUS FILE

Last week, I provided some ideas on writing a dissertation and earning one's PhD. I contacted an advisor from my alma matre from over 20 years ago, and asked him if my ideas were consistent with ones that he might have. My question to him was, "Do I get to choose my PhD dissertation topic or is it chosen for you by your advisors during the PhD candidate program?" His answer was two-fold. Yes, you get to choose your idea or topic, and your advisors will tell you what is their approved idea. He said the trick to writing on your own idea is to go around the country and look for a PhD program and advisor who is working on their thesis as well and it is consistent with your idea. Your contribution and work will support their work and vice-versa. So you have to find a program and school that is working on your same ideas and see if they are willing to take you into their program; apply and be accepted. Very interesting, huh?

COMPUTER SECURITY -- PART X of X

This is the last part of the puzzle for this series of computer security conversation.

How do you know if your website has been hacked? First of all, your friends and colleagues will tell you. Typically, their antivirus program that scans websites will determine yours as being compromised. If this happens, just take the time to determine if your website username and password need to be changed, or the hosting company has been compromised. Here is a list of website resources you can use to test your website again malware, trojans, etc.

- <http://sectools.org/tag/web-scanners/>

To recap on computer security, which antivirus programs are the best. We love Microsoft Security Essential and AVG 2012. These are free or at least trial for free. The best paid antivirus programs are ESET NOD32 and the worst are many; Norton Internet Security, McAfee Total Security, Charter Security Suite, SuperAntispyware/Antivirus, Panda and especially Trend Micro. The viruses people are exposed to often are not stopped by paid antivirus programs, so why waste the money? A free antivirus program is just as good as the paid versions. Here is the latest list:

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_antivirus_software

BUILD TO ORDER SERVERS- PART V

This is the last part of our Build to Order Servers. This will wrap up five parts over the last five weeks.

When you want to buy a server, be sure you are being specific about it's functionality. What/Which application will it serve? will it be a file server, print server, email server, database server, web server? Where will it be installed and hosted? In a closet, in a data center, on a desk or in a server rack? All of this determines the case and size and dimensions. From a 1U to a 3U case, or an ATX or Large ATX case. With one or two power supplies. Will the drives be hot-swappable, and will the power supplies be hot-swappable.

All of these questions and answers will affect price and whether or not the parts will be OEM or proprietary. I prefer OEM parts and not proprietary. Available of parts replacement should be local and not require 4 hour service level agreements (SLAs) from a 3rd party that costs thousands of dollars per year.

Call for more information. Free Quotes available.

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TECH TIPS OF THE WEEK

1. Do not let your baby sit unattended in front of your laptop. YOU might find that all your keyboard keys are removed when you return.
2. Be sure to reboot your PC at least once per week, and feel free to give it a rest at night and turn it off. Save some energy.



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Lunch 11x-12x

Saturday 10am-2pm

GO GREEN PC-TUNE UP!

