

Re: PC vs Mac

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On Wed, 4 Oct 2006 17:12:10 +0900, Paul D wrote:

If I were

to offer a word of advice, I would provide the following. PCs should

become

more resistant to bullying and provide a more stable and secure environment. Macs should be less anti-social and adopt a better standards-based open architecture approach to attract application developers and provide greater range and capability with their software.

Hitting the nail on the head, that's it.

Macs are anti-social and less standards based than Windows? That must be the joke of the day. :)

The Mac runs an open-source kernel (Darwin/BSD), uses an open-source browser (Safari/KHTML), uses and includes the open source compiler G++, gives its development tools for free, provides Unix-compatible environments like X-windows, uses standard PDF for printing and document rendering, uses the Unicode standard system-wide for fonts and text, uses OpenGL for hardware acceleration, shares calendar information with the iCal standard, and rips your CDs to either ubiquitous MP3 or the open standard AAC. Apple computers network via a variety of open standards as well as the closed Windows SMB protocol (which had to be reverse-engineered). Apple made widespread the use of the USB, Firewire, 802.11, and Bluetooth standards before they were common on PCs.

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Windows, in comparison, runs a closed kernel with no Linux/unix compatibility; provides a closed web browser with broken web standards support; charges for its development tools; has proprietary formats for printing and video rendering; uses a mish-mash of Unicode and other text encoding schemes (even its main text editor can't open Unicode files); shares calendar information in its closed Outlook format; uses proprietary networking protocols; and rips your music to WMA.

Hm, that looks suspiciously like a rant, although it wasn't meant to be.

No problem. You're reinforcing the point I made that the Mac has a more elegant, secure, and stable operating environment. The problem is developers don't like working with Apple. Very often, it's the little things where you see Apple's parochialism. For example, one of the things that used to annoy me was the one button Apple mouse. It just boggled the mind that Apple that introduced the mouse with the Lisa would be so recalcitrant when it came to adding a right click and a scroll capability. Well, they finally gave in but this is one area where Apple should never have put themselves in the position where they had to play catch-up to the PC.

Phil Yff

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