

My Super-Fast New PC

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I finally purchased a new desktop for my office a couple of weeks ago. I bought an **HP Pavilion Elite Intel Core 2 Quad Q6700 2.66GHz**. It came with Vista, and looked like it would be a big hassle to attempt to downgrade to XP, so I'm currently stuck with Vista. I've already uncovered a couple of tricks to make Vista less of a pain in the a\$!, which I'll try to blog about soon.

Even with Vista this bad boy is very, very fast. I can run Firefox, Norton 360, ColdFusion 8.01 (64-bit), MySQL, Apache, Eclipse and Excel all at the same time, and it's still lightning fast. I find it hard to believe that one can purchase a PC that is this powerful, from a big name manufacturer, for just \$1200.

If anyone reading this is thinking about upgrading their machine, I encourage you to do so. Developing is so much more enjoyable now that I don't have to wait for things to happen. If you consider the amount of time you lose and the amount of aggravation you endure while waiting for your machine to respond, and then you consider the number of hours that you'll spend in front of your machine for the next 2 - 3 years, it's not difficult to cost-justify.

I was very tempted to just buy a MBP so I could be one of the cool guys, but I don't actually need a laptop most of the time (being only a part-time developer who works from home), so this seemed like a more logical option.