

News Article

Online Security *Doesn't* Exist

By David Goldman @CNMoneyTech

One of the big jokes at this year's Black Hat cybersecurity conference in Las Vegas is that there is no such thing as cybersecurity. No system can be 100% secure. There is no uncrackable code.

"Security, in effect, sucks," said Richard Thieme, a prolific writer and professional speaker on the impact of new technologies on society. "Security professionals feel overwhelmed because they can't do security."

Cybersecurity vendors and antivirus software firms advertise that they can keep companies, agencies and people safe. Yet antivirus programs can't stop every attack. And every day a new company or government organization announces that they've been compromised.

"Our whole industry is built on smoke and mirrors," said Thieme at Black Hat Thursday. "What we have is fundamentally broken. Cryptography is the opiate of the naive. So how can we use the word 'security' when we don't mean it?"

The root of the conundrum, Thieme argued, is not that everything is unsafe, but rather that people in the security profession are lying to themselves about what and how much they protect.

They're bad at mitigating risk but very good at mitigating fear by pretending that everything is safe and secure, he said.

How cybercriminals hack you

They're also propagating that myth to the public by refusing to discuss their vulnerabilities out in the open.

For instance, Intel (INTC, Fortune 500)-owned McAfee this week released information about an attack that affected 72 organizations. The security firm wouldn't release the names of the victims, because none of them wished to be identified publicly.

That's a problem, Thieme said, because it reinforces a false narrative that the world is basically secure, and everything will eventually work itself out. Only when companies and agencies begin to speak truthfully about their limitations -- both internally and externally -- can they start to address the real-life challenges that face them.

"A company's objective is to get its security employees to embrace and protect its system," said Thieme. "But companies need to go deeper than that. They have to address the problems manifest in the system."

Part of the problem is that companies and agencies lack

support from their top decision makers. CEOs, CFOs and even some chief security officers are so focused on the bottom line (let's get our product out to customers quickly) that they view security as more of a nuisance than a business-critical undertaking.

When security does get addressed, it's an afterthought. Unlike a bank, which builds the vault first and then the rest of the building around that structure to protect it, organizations typically build a product and then a fence around it afterwards. Without security at the core, hackers will find a way in.

Of course, attackers will find a way in one way or another even if you integrate security in a product from the outset. But giving cybersecurity the proper attention it deserves and acknowledging that nothing can be 100% protected can help keep more, if not most, of the bad guys at bay.

"Only hardcore security professionals think about the fact that you can never be totally secure," said Joshua Shaul, chief technology officer for Application Security. "The only thing you can do is build the fence higher and higher so that eventually it's not worth it to climb over."

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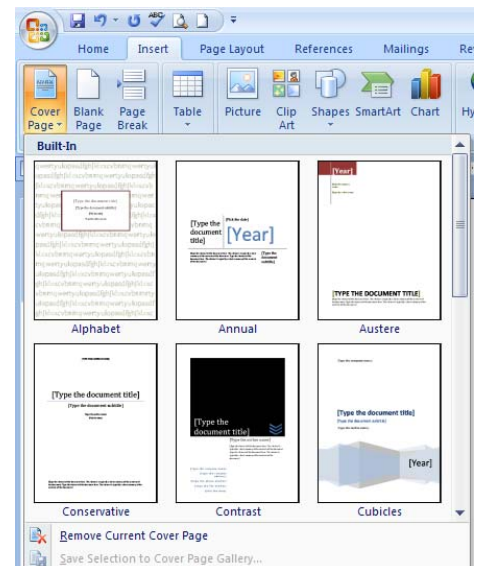
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Tips for the Office



Word 2007 Built in Cover Pages

Prior to Word 2007, you had to manually set section breaks at the top of your document before you could create a cover page with a different page format from the rest of your document. With Word 2007's built-in cover pages, the section breaks are already formatted for you. Follow these steps to add one of the built-in cover pages to your document:



1. Click the Insert tab.
2. Click the Cover Page button.
3. Scroll to and click Sideline.
4. Select the Title field and add your own title.
5. Click to select the Subtitle field and add your own subtitle.
6. Click the list arrow on the Date field and select the date from the calendar.
7. Click anywhere in page two of your document.
8. On the Insert ribbon, click the Page Number button.
9. Point to Bottom of Page and click Plain Number 3.
10. Click the Page Number button on the Design ribbon.
11. Click Format Page Numbers.
12. Click in the Start At text box and change the 1 to 0. Click OK.
13. On the Design ribbon, click the Close Header And Footer button.

Note: This feature is not supported in Word 2007 Compatibility Mode documents.

Did your know...

Outlook Calendar Icons

The following are icons you may see in your Calendar folder when using a table view. Depending on which version of Outlook you use, the icons you see will look slightly different.

Day/Week/Month (D/W/M) calendars will display a simple form of some of these icons. The Appointment list in the To-Do bar in Outlook 2007 use these icons as well.

Calendar Icons

Older	2003	Older	2007	
				Recurring calendar item
				Scheduled meeting
				Recurring Meeting
				Exception to recurring item This symbol is used when you make an exception to a recurring appointment or task.
				Data conflict Lets you know conflict exists between your local store and your Exchange Server data. To resolve the conflict, open the item and follow the instructions shown on your screen. You may see these icons with a PDA as well.
				Start time and end time of an appointment or meeting Used with multi-day items in the Week or Month views where a specific start and end time have been set. The time shown in the symbol matches the start time of the item, to the nearest 1/2 hour, shaded for AM and PM. Hide or show by right clicking on the Calendar and choosing Other Settings. Select or deselect "Show time as clocks".
				Private item – Items marked as private display this icon.
				Indicates a reminder is associated with this item.
				A Meeting Workspace is associated with this item
				A file attachment is associated with this item
				More items (up or down) There are more items than can be shown in the current view. Click to open the date in Week or month view. Used on the time scale in Day view, use the arrow keys or scroll bar to scroll.
				Icon replaces standard appointment icon when the Live Search Maps add-in is installed.

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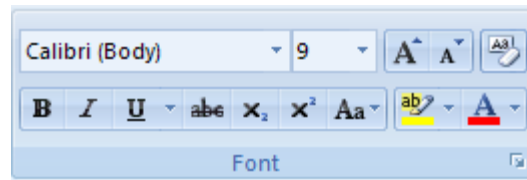
Question of the Month



Question: How do I clear just the formatting in Word 2007?

Answer: As the name suggests, "Clear Formatting" will remove all the formatting you have applied to your text, and set it back to the default paragraph

style. You can find the "Clear Formatting" button on the "Home" tab of the ribbon, in the "Font" group. Just select the text you want to clear up, and then click on the button.



"Crashing is an expression of hostility against your network administrator. Though you appear to be uncooperative, it's actually a desperate cry for help."

Quote of the Month

A leader has the vision and conviction that a dream can be achieved. He inspires the power and energy to get it done.

Ralph Lauren -

Product of the Month

1135n Multifunction Network Laser Printer

Your complete office solution

Retire your fax machine, scanner, printer and copier and replace them with the 4-in-1 Dell 1135n Multifunction Network Laser Printer. Enjoy speedy printing, easy networking and professional results with 1200dpi resolution.



Say hello to speed

With fast setup and even faster printing, the Dell 1135n Multifunction Network Laser Printer might just be the most efficient worker in your office.

- Spend less time waiting: With speeds of up to 23 letter-sized pages or 22 A4-sized pages per minute, jobs will be ready by the time you walk to the printer.
- Ready when you need it: With its USB 2.0 connectivity, the Dell 1135n Multifunction Network Laser Printer provides simple plug-and-play setup.
- Designed with you in mind: The 2-inch LCD screen makes using the 4-in-1 device a cinch. You can also save time with high-capacity toner cartridges and the standard 250-sheet paper tray.
- Operate for less: Not only does this device produce great-looking documents, it runs with an incredibly low cost per page.

Compelling performance



Even though the Dell 1135n Multifunction Network Laser Printer is compact in size, it is mighty in performance, helping you run your office more efficiently every day.

Impeccable prints: Enjoy color scans of up to 4800x4800dpi, as well as sharp, professional black-and-white printed documents with 1200dpi resolution.



Communicate faster: Send fax documents through at 33.6 Kbps using the automatic document feeder and watch their progress on the LCD screen.

Future-ready: 128MB of memory (standard) and a 360MHz processor provide ample speed to process the biggest print jobs and meet your needs well into the future.

Excellent usability and long-term reliability

The Dell 1135n Multifunction Network Laser Printer comes ready to use right out of the box with everything needed to get it running in minutes. And if you do have questions, service is just a phone call away.

Support and protection - Enjoy a 1-year limited hardware warranty and 1-year Advance Exchange Service², including 24/7 tech support (U.S. only). You may also purchase up to 5 additional years of service.

Toner management - The Dell Toner Management System alerts you when it is time to reorder toner. Choose from standard 1,500-page³ toner or 2,500-page³ high yield toner.

Environmentally conscious - Dell offers extensive recycling options. This printer is also RoHS-compliant (containing less than 0.1% lead by weight) and ENERGY STAR 1.1 compliant.

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