



# **SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION TOOLS**



# Windows Me System Information

## OBJECTIVES

1. View various areas of System Information.
2. Tour Microsoft's new Help and Support interface.
3. Use the Tools menu to run programs to enhance or repair your system.

## RESOURCES

1. Marcraft 8000 Trainer running Windows Me or Windows 98



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## DISCUSSION

Windows 98 and Windows Millennium are equipped with a powerful set of tools to assist users with various troubleshooting tasks.

## PROCEDURE

1. **Boot the computer to Windows Me**
  - \_\_\_ a. Turn on the computer and select Windows Me from the OS selection menu.
2. **Touring Windows Millennium's Help and Support Information tool**
  - \_\_\_ a. Use the path Start/Programs/Accessories/System Tools and then select System Information to open the *MS Help and Support* window.
  - \_\_\_ b. In Table 22-1, list the subtopics underneath System Summary from the left window pane.
3. **Viewing Hardware Resources**
  - \_\_\_ a. Double-click the HARDWARE RESOURCES directory in order to expand it.
  - \_\_\_ b. Click the IRQs subtopic under HARDWARE RESOURCES to show the settings in the right pane.
  - \_\_\_ c. In Table 22-2, list the Resources IRQs, Device names, and Status.
4. **Viewing Components**
  - \_\_\_ a. Double-click the COMPONENTS directory to expand it.
  - \_\_\_ b. Click the DISPLAY subcomponent and record the Adapter name, Adapter type, Resolution, and Bits/Pixel in Table 22-3.
  - \_\_\_ c. Double-click the PORTS subcomponent and choose Serial.
  - \_\_\_ d. In Table 22-4, list the Baud Rate for COM1.



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## PROCEDURE - 22

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### 5. Viewing the Software Environment

- ☐ a. Double-click the SOFTWARE ENVIRONMENT directory to expand it.
- ☐ b. Click the DRIVERS subcomponent and view the drivers that are listed in the right pane.
- ☐ c. Subsequently click on each subcomponent underneath the SOFTWARE ENVIRONMENT directory to become familiar with the types of information available here.
- ☐ d. Click the STARTUP PROGRAMS subcomponent.

*NOTE: This subsection can be helpful when troubleshooting boot problems and when optimizing your system. It is also a good place to check if your computer is running unnecessary programs at startup.*

### 6. Viewing Internet Explorer's subcomponent information

- ☐ a. Double-click the INTERNET EXPLORER directory to expand it.
- ☐ b. In Table 22-5, list all of the subcomponents that are listed under the Internet Explorer.

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## Viewing the Tools that are Available in the Tools Menu

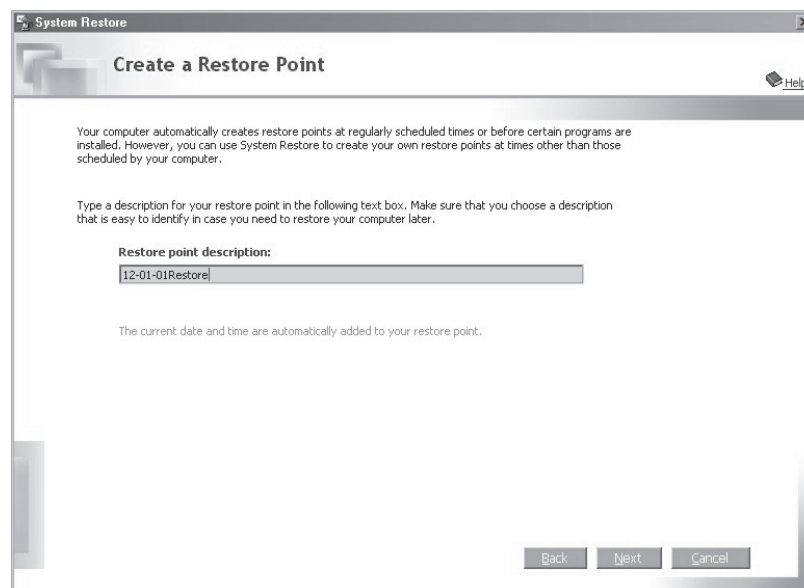
You can use System Restore to undo harmful changes to your computer and restore its settings and performance. System Restore returns your computer to an earlier time (called a restore point) without causing you to lose recent work, such as saved documents, e-mail, or history and favorites lists.

Your computer automatically creates restore points (called system checkpoints), but you can also use System Restore to create your own. This is useful if you are about to make a major change to your system, such as installing a new program or changing your Registry.



### 1. Using System Restore to create a restore point for your computer

- ☐ a. In the menu bar click the Tools menu and select System Restore.
- ☐ b. Click the radio button next to "Create a restore point" and click Next to continue.
- ☐ c. In the *System Restore* window, Figure 22-1, give your restore point a descriptive name. I recommend using the date in the name. Type today's date with the word Restore at the end of the name (example: 12-01-01Restore)
- ☐ d. Click the Next button to continue.
- ☐ e. Click OK to close the *Confirm New Restore Point* window.



**Figure 22-1:**  
**System Restore Window**

## 2. Using System Restore to return your system to an earlier state

- \_\_\_ a. Click the Tools menu and select System Restore.
- \_\_\_ b. With "Restore my computer to an earlier time" checked, click Next to continue.
- \_\_\_ c. Select a bold date in the calendar as far back as you can to restore your system to. In our example, we went back to the previous month.
- \_\_\_ d. Highlight a System CheckPoint listing on the right, as shown in Figure 22-2, and click Next to continue.
- \_\_\_ e. Make sure all programs are closed, except the Help and Support windows, and click OK to continue.
- \_\_\_ f. Verify the date and time of the restore point and enter it into Table 22-6.
- \_\_\_ g. Click Next to begin the restoration process.
- \_\_\_ h. The computer will automatically reboot itself to a Restoration status window.
- \_\_\_ i. Verify that the restoration was completed successfully, and click OK.

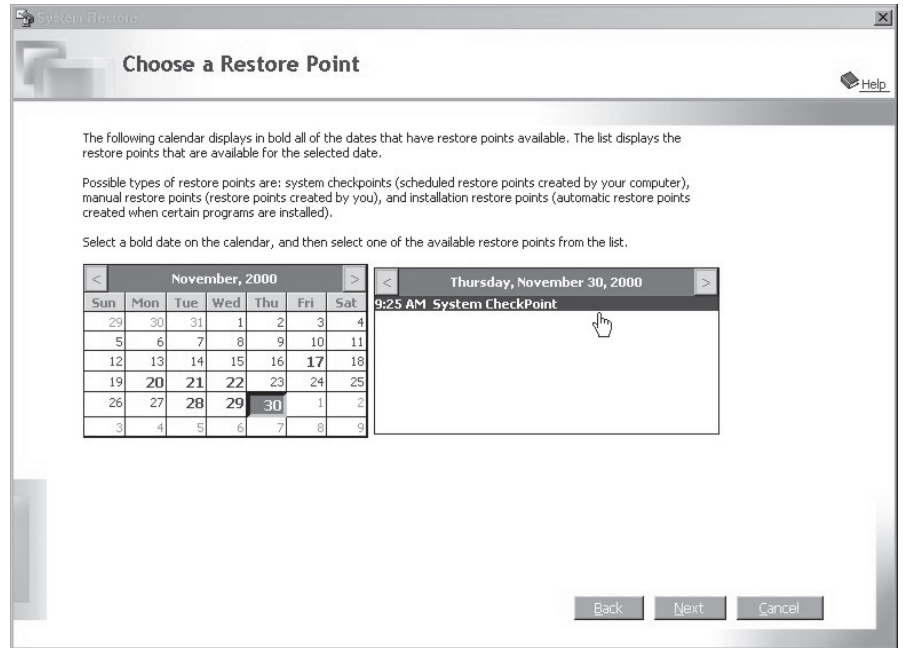


Figure 22-2: System Restore Window

## 3. Working with the System Configuration Utility (SCU)

- \_\_\_ a. From within the Microsoft Help and Support interface, click the Tools menu and select System Configuration Utility.
- \_\_\_ b. On the General tab, click the Advanced button.
- \_\_\_ c. In Table 22-7, list the optional Settings that are under the Advanced Troubleshooting Settings.

*NOTE: It is recommended that only advanced users and system administrators change these settings. It is always a good idea to keep track of the changes that you've made.*

- \_\_\_ d. Click Cancel to exit the Advanced Troubleshooting window.
- \_\_\_ e. Click the Startup tab to show a list of all programs that load during the boot process.
- \_\_\_ f. In Table 22-8, list everything that loads on your specific computer at startup.
- \_\_\_ g. On the General tab, click the radio button next to "Selective startup".
- \_\_\_ h. In Table 22-9 list the selections for startup.
- \_\_\_ i. Click the radio button next to "Diagnostic startup", and click OK to shut the SCU.
- \_\_\_ j. When prompted to restart your computer, select Yes.
- \_\_\_ k. In Table 22-10, list the boot options from the screen.
- \_\_\_ l. Allow Windows to boot to the default (Normal).
- \_\_\_ m. Shut down the computer.

TABLES

Table 22-1

System Summary Subtopics:	

Table 22-2

Resources	
IRQ No.	Device Name

Table 22-3

Display Subcomponents	
Adapter Name:	
Adapter Type:	
Resolution:	
Bits/Pixel	

Table 22-4

COM1 Baud Rate:	
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Table 22-5

Internet Explorer Subcomponents:	

Table 22-6

Restore Point	
Date:	
Time:	

Table 22-7

<b>Optional Settings Under Advanced Troubleshooting Settings:</b>	

Table 22-8

Specific Programs Loaded at Startup	

Table 22-9

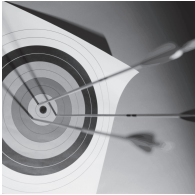
<b>General Program Selections Loaded at Startup:</b>	

Table 22-10

<b>Diagnostic Startup Boot Options:</b>	

LAB QUESTIONS

- 1. Is the same IRQ listed for multiple devices?
- 2. Which utility within System Information allows you to return your computer to the same state it was in, and allows you to choose how far back to change it back to?
- 3. What is System Information used for?



Feedback

