

Why go Mac

Written by Doug Hawkins

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It's a question I seem to be getting asked by many of my PC friends (or is that my now PC 'fiends').

I just say, "why not go Mac" then they give me 100 million reasons why a PC is better than a Mac, how much cheaper it is, which is quite amusing because it's a one sided viewpoint; as I know they have never used a Mac in their life or realise it's true value!

So why did I go Mac and not go PC?

It came down to me wanting a new laptop with \$2K in my back pocket ready to spend. I knew Macs were around but didn't consider buying one until the last minute.

I was going to buy a Sony Vaio with Windows on it; the only Sony's I found were pre-loaded with Vista. In fact most of the new laptops seem only to come infected with Vista – oh goodie! - i have no choice!

Last year I tried Vista RC1, thought it was a pretty OS but concluded it seemed that MS were marketing a lot of functionality that had been round for a while, mainly found in the open source Linux community and I also guess Mac did some cool stuff as well such as the spotlight search system. Plus Vista didn't interface well with anything else I had, what a hassle that was.

Over the last two years, I've actually been more a Linux user than Windows user. Ubuntu is what I mainly used, although I did use daily a Windows XP based laptop for work.

Still I thought the Vaio would be it for me, but as much as I tried to convince my self that Vista might be ok to use as the primary OS... I found that every time I went to look at a laptop running Vista it just felt, well, here is the strange part - it felt really dirty. I was literally put off by just thinking about all the pain I would be (again) subjecting my self to by, using another windows based machine.

I really don't have the time anymore to keep fixing windows problems, life is too short and my operating system patience is even shorter.

So I had a dilemma, I wanted a Sony Vaio but don't want the pain of windows.

It was time to think about this situation and break it down further.

Why did I want a Sony Vaio, besides I only had \$2K to spend and for that money can I get a powerhouse?

Well for \$2K, probably not, and there was another dilemma, along with being impatient over software (mainly anything windows based) I'm also impatient with hardware. The fastest way to turn off a window-based pc especially when it's misbehaving is turn the friggin power off and reboot.

I'm sure I'm a victim of a cunning Microsoft conspiracy to ensure any windows pc I touch will crash.

Maybe I'm really Mag-net-o of Xmen?

The main reason I wanted a Sony Vaio is because Sony Vaio's look classy. "It's all about image you know ☐ "

However, my conclusion on that one is that you can't look too classy if the Vaio keeps crashing.

So what I really needed is a stable platform to work from because another hat I've been wearing lately is freelance web developer. Hence I needed a very stable platform, one that is also slick,

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sweet and sexy.

Looking around the computer show room, I saw lots of slick, sweet and sexy. But those hot women left with their husbands...ha-ha

Seriously, the apple caught my eye. It was the white Macbook, all \$2,199.00 worth.

For the next week, I convinced my self that it has that white Macbook. Then the little sleek white Macbook told me to go black Macbook and my budget got extended to \$2,399.00. Done deal I thought. Pay the money and get on with it!

Then I started picturing my self designing websites on a 13" wide screen, hmmm is that really going to be workable?

Fortunately I looked at the Macbook pro 15", hey that looks...big I thought. However that's like \$3,399.00, and I'm sure the screen saver at the time was flashing, "If you buy this your wife will divorce you!"

Now, I'm not a procrastinator I'm more of a just do it if it is viable sort of thinker. But I decided that I will not do anything just yet. It wasn't that I was scared of my wife's reaction but more that I really only could stretch my \$2K to \$2.4K and what I was now wanting is like \$800.00 more than I had.

So I put it on the back burner.

2 months went by. Believe it or not over the course of that time, I actually had a picture of a Macbook Pro on my Work laptops desktop as the background. So every day I looked at it thinking, I'm going to get one of those.

I got offered an unbelievable deal though our local apple vendor. A Macbook Pro 17" for \$3,800.00 normal RRP is \$4,600.00.

IS this a deal or what! Take it or leave it you have 1 week to let us know, the sooner the better.

Well it went like this, "Honey I need to spend another \$1K on the laptop."

W- "Why"

Me - "Um er because I need to"

W - "No you can't"

Me - "err I've already ordered it"

W - "WTF!"

Then it was, "Honey work is paying the extra \$800.00 and I've actually saved about \$900.00 because it's true value is \$4.6K."

W - "WTF!!! You said \$3K!"

Then there was silence for a day or two.

And here we are. I went Mac because I guess Mac wanted me to. Ha-ha
Good on yer Mac.

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ps: my wife also uses it!