

Computer Bytes – Create a Restore Point 2017

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Happy Fall! It's an excellent time of year and now that we're getting past the yukky heat wave, I hope you all, as I am, looking forward to the fall weather and upcoming Holiday Season!

This time around I'm going to share a nice tip that can often help in recovering your Windows based system if you experience issues. It does not always resolve the problem, but can be helpful in many cases. It's called 'creating a system restore point'.

Firstly, the details. The 'create restore point' creates a 'copy' of the system settings so you can restore back to the date of this restoration point. Don't let the word 'restore' mislead you. It's not like you're restoring data from a BACKUP. With this function, it will NOT affect any of your data. It WILL affect any applications or programs you've loaded since the restore point creation. For example, if you run the restore to October 1 creation point, and you created a letter to the tax man on October 15, that file will still be in your Documents. If you loaded a program, such as Microsoft Word on October 15, then ran the October 1 restore, that program would be gone. This is by design as the rollback is attempting to get back to BEFORE the problem happened and it may have been one of the programs you loaded, purposely or inadvertently, creating the problem you're trying to resolve. Additionally, it will roll back installations of drivers, Windows Updates, and sometimes Malware, though don't count on the last item. Other utilities are generally required to dig out those bugs.

As with all Windows activities, there are numerous ways to achieve the same end results. For example, to copy/paste you can use the menu options in the toolbar for the program you're using OR you can use the keyboard. You still get the same end results. In this review, I will be giving you a process to perform the creation of a restore point – one way to do it. The following steps are the same for Windows 7 and Windows 10 except for the first step getting to the control panel and setting on "Category View".

Windows 7: Choose Start / Control Panel

Windows 10: To the right of Start button, type: Control Panel – select from the top of the list provided.

- Select: System & Security / System.
- In the left pane, select System protection.
- Select the System Protection tab
- Make sure your "C:" drive has ON noted under Protection.
- Select Create.
- In the System Protection dialog box, type a description, and then select Create.

NOTE: We usually enter something like: HOC Service – System Cleanup. This helps identify restore points and which one you may want to choose when you do a restore.

- You will see progress bar "Creating a restore point".
- When finished, close all the windows back to your desktop.

Now, some of you may have seen the features to actually restore from the creation points. However, for this issue, due to space and time, we'll hit the details for that next time... always something else to do, isn't there?!

NOTE: Our sharing of information within articles includes suggestions and tips. USE AND/OR APPLY AT YOUR OWN RISK. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our offices for professional service/guidance.

Until next time, don't forget your backups! For more information, contact Harv Oliver, HANDS-ON Consultations, (805) 524-5278, www.hocsupport.com