

Added Security:

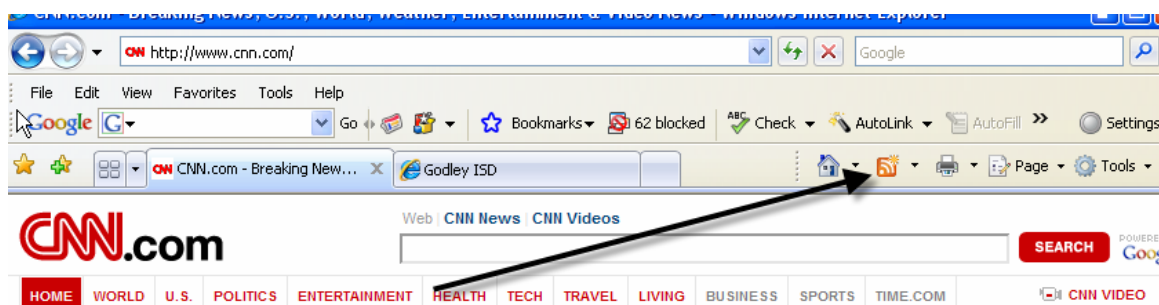
You will notice you will be prompted much more to allow something to run or install.

Sidebar and Gadgets:

Easy-to-use mini programs that give you information at a glance and provide easy access to frequently used tools. Windows Sidebar helps you to organize your gadgets. Can be customized.

RSS Feeds:

Downloads information such as headlines, sports scores, etc. throughout the day. Notice the orange button becomes active.



Welcome Center:

Comes up when Vista launches or can be found in control panel. Useful information. Uncheck the box to keep it from starting up.

Start Menu:

Right click on start menu to choose properties you can change

Aero:

Personalize windows color and appearance. Right click on desktop and choose personalize.

Breadcrumbs:

Links to all levels of the hierarchy above the current location, showing the route a searcher has taken...think Hansel and Gretel.

Windows Mail:

Search emails. Instant search on the start menu also searches emails now. Watch for things in the Junk email box.

Desktop Icons (shortcuts):

Right click on desktop and choose Personalize. Choose “change desktop icons”. Or just right click on the item and choose file, desktop.

Users Folder:

Includes docs, pics, links, favorites etc. Even keeps your recent searches. It is named whatever you log on with. Don't confuse this with your network folder since they are named the same!

Name changes:

You will notice some name changes. For example, edit is now organize, and properties is now personalize.

Application Switching:

Vista has ways to switch applications when you have several open. Alt+TAB or Windows+TAB, or an icon in the quick launch area of the task bar. Also notice hovering over an open window icon in the task bar shows you a preview of the window.

View menu:

By clicking View, you can change the way the items in a folder look.

Instant Search:

Instant results. You can even put in a date. Also searches emails.

Windows Calendar:

Good basic appointment and event scheduling.

Windows Contacts:

Takes the place of your address book. Can even add a picture.

Windows Photo Gallery:

Helps you organize and view your digital photos and videos more easily. You can even do rudimentary photo editing and print them from within the gallery.

Microsoft Defender:

Protects against Spyware. Needs updating.