
Attachment: HP Brio PCs, HP Vectra PCs and HP Kayak Workstation PCs (3/15/99)

HP BRIO PCS, HP VECTRA PCS AND HP KAYAK PC WORKSTATIONS

Web Site for HP Brio, HP Vectra, and HP Kayak PCs:

<http://www.hp.com/desktop/year2000>

READY FOR THE YEAR 2000

As the year 2000 approaches, computer users around the world are growing more concerned about how computer systems will handle the transition. The basic problem is that hardware and software that use a two-digit format for the year may roll, for example, from 1999 to 1900. The good news is that for users of HP Brio PCs, HP Vectra PCs and HP Kayak PC Workstations, the impact is minimal and any non-compliance in older machines is simple to resolve. What's more is that all new HP Brio PCs, HP Vectra PCs and Kayak PC Workstations are NSTL YMARK2000 certified.

SOFTWARE

For software, HP Brio PC users, HP Vectra PC users and HP Kayak PC Workstations users should contact their software suppliers about the required actions to ensure that their applications will continue to run correctly in 2000. Most software vendors are already working to fix any limitations in their software.

HP BRIO PC, HP VECTRA PC AND HP KAYAK PC WORKSTATIONS HARDWARE

Hewlett-Packard has already addressed the year 2000 transition in its HP Brio PCs, HP Vectra PCs and HP Kayak PCs Workstations. HP Brio PCs, HP Vectra PCs and HP Kayak PCs Workstations introduced since the end of 1995 handle the rollover to the year 2000 without any problem.

HP VECTRA PCS AND HP KAYAK PCS WORKSTATIONS

All products listed here will rollover correctly, without any user action required, regardless of BIOS version.

HP VECTRA MODELS

HP Vectra VE 5/xxx Series 2
HP Vectra VE 5/xxx Series 3
HP Vectra VE 5/xxx Series 4
HP Vectra VE C/xxx Series 7
HP Vectra VE 6/xxx Series 8
HP Vectra VEi 7
HP Vectra VEi 8
HP Vectra VL 5/xxx Series 4
HP Vectra VL 5/xxx Series 5

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HP Vectra VL 6/xxx Series 6
HP Vectra VL 6/xxx Series 7
HP Vectra VL 6/xxx Series 8
HP Vectra VLi 8
HP Vectra VA
HP Vectra XM 5/xxx Series 4
HP Vectra XA 5/xxx
HP Vectra XA 6/xxx
HP Vectra XW 6/xxx
HP Vectra 500 models 510/5xxx and 515
HP Vectra 500 models 320, 520 and 525
HP Net Vectra

HP BRIO MODELS

HP Brio Model 71xx
HP Brio Model 80xx
HP Brio Model 81xx
HP Brio Model 82xx
HP Brio Model 83xx
HP Brio Model 84xx
HP Brio Model 85xx
HP Brio BAX
HP Brio BA

HP KAYAK MODELS

HP Kayak XA 6/xxx and 7/xxx
HP Kayak XA-s 6/xxx and 7/xxx
HP Kayak XU 6/xxx and 7/xxx
HP Kayak XU Xeon 6/xxx and 7/xxx
HP Kayak XW 6/xxx
HP Kayak XW Xeon 6/xxx

If your PC has been introduced before 1995 or is not part of this list, we have the solution below.

HP VECTRA COMMERCIAL PCS, MANAGEMENT OF THE YEAR 2000 TRANSITION

For the HP Desktop PCs which are not already Year 2000 compliant, Hewlett-Packard has made several options available. Any of these options will manage the Year 2000 transition correctly. One option is to update the system BIOS. The list below outlines the HP Vectra PCs for which HP has released a new BIOS. The new BIOS versions are also available from the HP Support Vectra web site : <http://www.support.vectra.hp.com/>

System

BIOS Version

HP Vectra500 model 502/512/510(D37xxA)/514HGP.05.07 or above

Vectra 500 model 522 GK.05.13 or above

HP Vectra 500 models 56x and 57x GJ.07.18 or above

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HP Vectra VE 4/xxx	GP.05.07 or above
HP Vectra XP 5/60	Y.05.06 or above
HP Vectra VL Series 2 5/60	GI.05.05 or above
HP Vectra XU 5/90	GO.05.14 or above
HP Vectra XU 5/1xx	GS.05.03 or above
HP Vectra VE 5/xx Series 1	GL.05.10 or above
HP Vectra VL 5/xx Series 3	GK.05.11 or above
HP Vectra XM 5/xx Series 3	GM.05.05 or above
HP Vectra XU 6/xxx	GG.06.05 or above
HP Vectra VT 6/xxx	GV.06.05 or above

If customers do not wish to update the BIOS, or have a 386 or 486 HP Vectra PC or a HP Vectra 500 Series PC, they have several options. Although the date will not automatically roll, it can be set to the year 2000 because the HP Vectra PCs store the year on four digits.

NO ACTION REQUIRED WITH NETWORK-CONNECTED PCS

Many corporate networks are configured to synchronize all PC clients' internal clock to the date and time kept on a server. These network-connected HP Vectra would then have date set to the correct value by the server automatically.

OPERATING SYSTEMS MAY UPDATE THE DATE

Several Operating System Vendors have already announced that their O/S will detect a date that rolls incorrectly. For example, if they detect a date of 1900, then they would either prompt the user to change the date or correct it automatically.

EASY MANUAL SETTING

For users of standalone PCs who do not wish to update the BIOS or the operating system, or install a device driver, there is a simple way for making their computer work correctly after Jan 1, 2000. If the clock doesn't roll to the year 2000 automatically, the date can be corrected manually. This is a straightforward task. Use either of the BIOS setup programs; Date command in DOS, or, Date/Time program in Operating System Control Panel. Users of Non-Standard Applications

The huge majority of PC users run applications that meet standard software design rules accessing dates from the Operating System clock or via the BIOS. These users will be satisfied with the solutions outlined above. Also, all Windows NT users are safe, as Windows NT automatically manages all date readings.

However, a limited number of users have specific applications that directly interface with the Real Time Clock (built-in hardware clock), bypassing the BIOS and the Operating System. As far as HP is aware, this is done by test programs only. These applications may get incorrect date data because they do not benefit of the data validation performed by the BIOS at each date reading.

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One solution is to stop the PC before the Year 2000 transition, and restart it after. At each restart, the BIOS validates the values in Real Time Clock hardware.

For users who cannot stop the PC, Hewlett-Packard will make available a new option in the BIOS setup menu of new products. When "Standard application" is set to "Yes", its default value, it has no effect on the system. When "Standard application" is set to "No", it makes the values in the Real Time Clock hardware being permanently monitored. Click here to get the list of these PCs.

On the other products, permanent monitoring is accomplished by a software device driver. Visit this web site to get details about the software device driver:
http://www.hp.com/desktop/year2000/device_driver.html

These two solutions will not provide any benefit if your applications do not access the Real Time Clock directly. These solutions might slightly affect the overall PC performance.

HP does recommend the use of applications that meet the standard software design rules, and do not directly access the Real Time Clock.

In summary, whether the date is updated through a BIOS, a Network connection, an O/S, or by using the BIOS setup or O/S Date/Time, the end result is the same, the date will be updated correctly. Hewlett-Packard HP Vectra PC customers should find that the transition to the year 2000 will be a very minor issue.

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