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## cover disc



Full programs this month are LapLink Technical, Illuminatus 4.51, FileBox Xtender and CyberScrub Basic.

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[www.pcadvisor.co.uk/about/coverdisc.cfm](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/about/coverdisc.cfm)



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• Ugh! These cookies are nasty • Breaking the beige box mould • XP cracked says pseudohacker group

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Artificial Intelligence may still be working on a thinking computer, but engineers have already produced a plastic that can heal itself.

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A sneak preview of the latest gadgets revving up to take the high street by storm.



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In a new regular for our News section, we hear the latest in Japanese innovation from correspondent J Mark Lytle.



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## consumerwatch

We investigate some of the pitfalls of the technology market, and give sound advice on dealing with all consumer issues. And in the second *Supplier profile*, we visit well-known PC manufacturer Hi-Grade.

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An astounding amount of top hardware passes through our Test Centre each month, and you may struggle to keep up with it all. So here's our take on the year's offerings, in which we highlight the cream of the crop.



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## workshop



ON THE COVER

### 169 Printer troubleshooting tips

Every one of us, whether we like it or not, relies on a printer and, more often than not, we all have problems getting them to do what we want. This troubleshooting workshop will tell you how to spot, diagnose and remedy printer mishaps, so you can get on with your work unhindered.

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### 177 Word processing tips & tricks

From better browsing to instant indexing, there are killer functions hiding in Word applications that could make life easier for all of us. Our experts have sought them out and set them down for you.



### LapLink tutorial

The cover disc this month includes a full version of LapLink Technical, which allows you to link up remotely to another computer. We've put together a shockwave tutorial that will help you get started with this remote connectivity program.

## helpline

Every month our mailbag is bursting with IT questions and queries about hardware, software and peripherals. Our computing experts tackle your problems and offer a variety of solutions to get your PCs running smoothly.

[www.pcadvisor.co.uk/expert/helpline](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/expert/helpline)

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When you've read and reread the magazine, don't forget to go online where you'll find special features, workshops and extra reviews.



### Print plus

Check out [www.pcadvisor.co.uk/about/printplus.cfm](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/about/printplus.cfm) for extra reviews and exclusive features, as well as magazine updates and quick links.

## in depth

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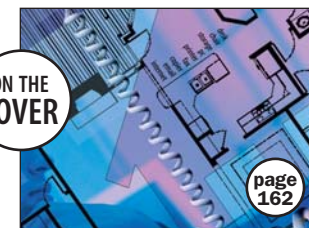
[www.pcadvisor.co.uk/registered](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/registered)

Everybody's talking about Microsoft's latest operating system – how it's more stable, user-friendly and media-oriented than ever. But is XP worth the upgrade?

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### 162 No workplace like home

There's no need to bring your work home with you if it's there already – but exactly what are the costs and considerations of setting up a fully functional home office?



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## competition

There's some great hardware and software on offer, including flat-panel displays, music recording packages, memory devices and palmtops. And for your chance to win £100 worth of software, courtesy of Smart4Software.com, turn to *Readers sites* on page 27.



WIN!

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## lifestyle

Take time out, turn to our *Lifestyle* section and get the low-down on the latest games, edutainment titles and forthcoming releases.

[www.pcadvisor.co.uk/reviews/software](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/reviews/software)

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### XP performance

[www.pcadvisor.co.uk/about/printplus.cfm](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/about/printplus.cfm)

If you still thirst for details after our in-depth appraisal of the new XP operating system, this online article includes details of how it performed in our lab tests and how to go about upgrading.

### Extra online reviews

Our Test Centre works hard throughout the month to bring you the latest hardware results. If you want to stay right up to date, don't miss the extra reviews online.