

Time Machine Tech Support Article

Using TimeMachine

ACER TIME MACHINE

The Acer TimeMachine can turn back time for your system's critical files. If your system was in good health yesterday, or last week, use the Acer TimeMachine to take your system back to that time.

Why Do I Need It?

How many times have you installed a new piece of software or hardware only to have it abruptly end your Windows session or crash the next time you start Windows? With TimeMachine, you will be able to restore your Windows 98 system files from a day ago, a week ago, or even months ago from when your system was fully healthy.

How Does It Work?

TimeMachine runs in the background and makes copies of your critical system files. Once a day it checks to see if any system files have changed. If a file has changed, a copy of that file is made and the change is stored and cataloged. A copy is made only when a change is found, so only minimal file space is required for time snapshots.

How Do I Use It?

If you ever need it, you can boot to Windows Safe Mode (Press and hold the <Ctrl> key as soon as you power the system on). After a few moments, you will see a "Microsoft Windows 98 Startup Menu" screen. Choose the "Safe Mode" option, and allow Windows to come up. When Windows comes up, your mouse may or may not work. If it doesn't, don't worry, you can use your keyboard to navigate around the screens. If you have an Icon for TimeMachine on your desktop: Use your arrow keys to highlight the TimeMachine Icon, then press <Enter>. If you do not have a Time Machine Icon on your screen, then press the "Windows" key (on the bottom-left of your keyboard, between the <Ctrl> and <Alt> keys). Then use your arrow keys to go up to "Programs", right and down arrow to "Ace". Press right arrow again, and you should be able to highlight the "TimeMachine" entry. Just press <Enter> now and Time Machine will begin.

From the opening screen, you will see the Restore Latest option. This option allows you to restore the latest time snapshot from the past. An undo option is available during the time snapshot process--if the time snapshot you selected makes matters worse, you can reverse the process. Follow the steps below to restore a time snapshot.

Select the Restore Latest option from the main menu. (If the date and time shown is after your troubles began, see below for the steps you must take).

Start Now should be highlighted, press <Enter>.

Highlight Yes and press <Enter> to begin file restoration or No to abort the process.

If the Snapshot is later than the Date/Time your troubles started:

From the opening screen, select the Next option by using the arrow keys, press <Enter>. On the next screen, select the latest date and time for a snapshot prior to your problem occurring.

Start Now should be highlighted. Press <Enter>.

Highlight Yes and press <Enter> to begin file restoration or No to abort the process.

Once "Yes" is selected, the system will then restart and begin overwriting your Windows 98 system files with the time snapshot contents. This process can take up to 15 minutes due to the number of files being restored. The TimeMachine window will appear on the Windows 98 desktop once the time snapshot has finished its copying process.

Select Test System Now and test your system to see if it is functioning correctly. Return to TimeMachine by selecting its icon from the Windows 98 task bar. Select System OK to accept the time snapshot contents if your system is behaving correctly, or select Other Options if you wish to revert back to your Windows 98 settings before you ran TimeMachine (Undo) or to select another time to restore from (Restore Another).