

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

Jan. 01, 2008

From the 2008 [Tax Season Survival Guide](#)

A few years ago, tax and accounting firms began the process of installing a second monitor for each employee. And so far, the experiment is a success. Firms report that the addition of a second monitor increased the productivity of their employees. Now, some firms are considering the addition of a third monitor to their desktops, and some have already gone that route. The process of installing a second monitor is not complicated. Your computer's ability to run a second monitor depends on the operating system and the graphics card.

Desktop Computers

The computer's operating system is the first item to be considered. Windows XP provides support for dual monitors. If you look at the Display Properties in the Control Panel, you will notice a setting called "Extend My Windows Desktop on this monitor." This feature allows the user to run independent sessions on two monitors.

The graphics card installed in your computer must also support dual monitors. Most graphics cards provide support for at least one analog monitor. You will recognize this as the 16-pin blue connection on the back of your computer. To support two independent monitors, the card must have two monitor connections. These connections may be analog, Digital Visual Interface (DVI) or a combination of both.

Finally, and most obviously, you must have two monitors. The standard monitor sold today with desktop computers is a 17" LCD panel. LCD panels range in size from 15 to 23 inches, and provide the connectors for analog and DVI

interfaces. It is important to match the connectors available on the graphics

Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

If you have any questions or need help you can email us

a docking station and be connected to two LCD panels. This option is more expensive but provides the user with two identical monitors that are consistent in size and performance.

Barry MacQuarrie is director of Technology for KAF Financial Group and is the CIO for an affiliated company, XCM Solutions. He has extensive experience working with technologies used by tax and accounting firms, including paperless office solutions, workflow applications and document management software. Barry is a member of the AICPA Information Technology Executive Committee. Contact him at barry.macquarrie@kafgroup.com.

Technology

CPA Practice Advisor is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors.

© 2024 Firmworks, LLC. All rights reserved