

# Hey! Wait a minute



Did you know your Acer Aspire comes with incredible multimedia software that was designed to show you all the cool stuff your computer can do? This book is your handy desktop reference for your Acer Aspire. For more information, access the online guide.

(P.S. - If you're reading this because you're having trouble with your computer, check the "Need Help?" section in this book.)

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# Welcome <sup>and</sup> thank you <sup>for</sup>

purchasing an Aspire computer. You are now the owner of a multimedia computer system! Already installed on your system and ready to go are software programs designed to enable you to:

-  Create personal documents
-  Access the Internet and send and receive emails
-  Use your computer as a fax machine
-  Play audio CDs while you're working

and tons more!

Whether you've owned a computer before or not, your Aspire was designed to improve the way you work and to serve your needs now and into the future.

## Before You Start . . .

Make sure you read this section carefully for proper placement and important Safety Instructions on the use and care of your new computer. Please save these instructions for future reference.

### Safety Instructions

- Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product.
- Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a cloth mildly dampened with water for cleaning.
- Do not use this product in or near water.
- Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, or table. The product may fall, causing serious damage to the product.
- Slots and openings in the cabinet and the back or bottom are provided for ventilation; to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating, these openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. This product should never be placed near or over a radiator or heat register, or in a built-in installation unless proper ventilation is provided.
- This product should be operated from the type of power indicated on the marking label. If you are not sure of the type of power available, consult your dealer or local power company.
- This product is equipped with a 3-wire grounding-type plug, a plug having a third (grounding) pin. This plug will only fit into a grounding-type power outlet. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug into the outlet, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the purpose of the grounding-type plug.

- Do not allow anything to rest on the power cord. Do not locate this product where persons will walk on the cord.
- If an extension cord is used with this product, make sure that the total ampere rating of the equipment plugged into the extension cord does not exceed the extension cord ampere rating. Also, make sure that the total rating of all products plugged into the wall outlet does not exceed 15 amperes.
- Never push objects of any kind into this product through cabinet slots as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock.
- Never spill liquid of any kind on the product.
- Do not attempt to service this product yourself; opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage points or other risks. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Service by persons other than Acer authorized service providers may void your warranty.
- Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:
  - a When the power cord or plug is damaged or frayed.
  - b If liquid has been spilled into the product.
  - c If the product has been exposed to rain or water.
  - d If the product does not operate normally when the operating instructions are followed. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions since improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to normal condition.
  - e If the product has been dropped or the cabinet has been damaged.
  - f If the product exhibits a distinct change in performance, indicating a need for service.
- Replace battery with the same type as the product's battery we recommend. Use of another battery may present a risk of fire or explosion. Refer battery replacement to qualified service personnel.

- **Warning!** Battery may explode if not handled properly. Do not recharge, disassemble or dispose of in fire. Keep away from children and dispose of used battery promptly.
- Use only the proper type of power supply cord set (provided in your keyboard/manual accessories box) for this unit. It should be a detachable type: UL listed/CSA certified, type SVT/SJT, rated 6A 125V minimum, VDE approved or its equivalent. Maximum length is 15 feet (4.6 meters).
- Always unplug the computer and monitor before opening the housing or adjusting connections or cables.
- Use power strips with surge protection to protect your computer in the event of a power surge, due to severe weather such as a thunderstorm.

## Proper Setup and Placement Tips

It's important that your computer be set up correctly and according to your own comfort and ergonomic needs. The following tips should make your workstation a comfortable and healthy place:

**Monitor Level.** Position your computer so that it is at arm's length away and the top third of the monitor viewing area is at eye level. This helps prevent eye and neck strain. To further reduce eye strain, close your eyes and refocus on something other than your computer screen at least twice an hour. Most monitors come standard with a detachable tilt-and-swivel base and adjustable, rear-mounted foot, which allow you to position the monitor exactly where you want it.

**Your Seat.** If you plan to use your Aspire computer for extended periods (for example, in a home office environment), select a highly adjustable office chair with a five-pronged base. The seat and chair back should be adjustable, while you're sitting in the chair, for height and tilt, and forward/backward positioning, and the lumbar area of the back should be supported by the chair adjustments or a cushion. Arm rests should conform to your elbow height and shoulder width and should be used for support. For maximum comfort, vary positions frequently throughout the day. Observe good posture when seated, keep your head centered over your shoulders and, just like your mother always told you, don't slump over your work.

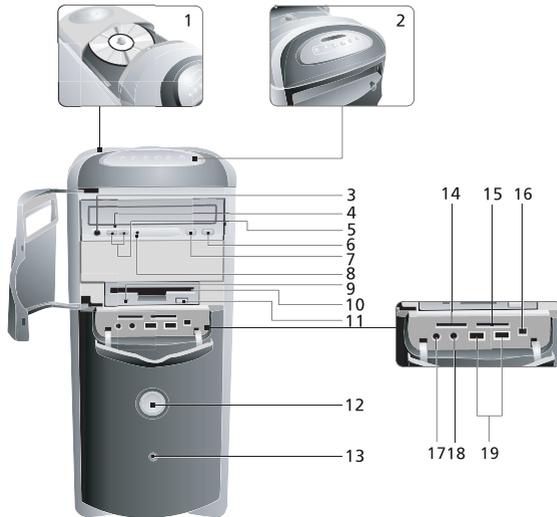
**Anti-Glare Coating.** Some monitor screens are constructed with a special anti-glare coating, which minimizes reflections that cause eye strain and discomfort. To further reduce eye strain, close your eyes and refocus on something other than your computer screen at least twice an hour.

**Task Lighting.** When room lighting is dimmed, there may be insufficient light on documents or reference materials for comfortable reading. A well-lit room or a few directional, adjustable task lights will allow you to see your monitor screen and other materials clearly, and with the least amount of strain.

**Hand and Wrist.** Keep your wrists straight and your forearms parallel to the floor while you are typing. If you use a wrist rest, use it only briefly for resting. Do not rest your hands on the table or on the wrist rest while you are typing. During long periods of typing, frequent breaks are recommended.

# Introducing your Aspire

## The System



No.	Description
1	CD/DVD compartment
2	Audio DJ console
3	Speaker/Headphone-out port
4	CD-ROM/DVD-ROM/CD-RW drive emergency eject hole
5	CD-ROM/DVD-ROM/CD-RW drive Volume Control button
6	CD-ROM/DVD-ROM/CD-RW drive Stop/Eject button
7	CD-ROM/DVD-ROM/CD-RW drive Play/Forward button

<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
8	CD-ROM/DVD-ROM/CD-RW drive activity indicator
9	3.5-inch floppy drive activity indicator
10	3.5-inch floppy drive
11	3.5-inch floppy drive eject button
12	Power button / LAN, Hard disk, Power activity indicator
13	Wireless connect button
14	Memory stick slot
15	SD/MMC slot
16	1394 port (optional)
17	Front microphone-in port
18	Speaker/headphone-out port
19	Front USB ports

## Setting Up Your Aspire

Refer to the Aspire Easy Setup poster included in your system box for details on how to set up your computer.

### Turning on your Aspire

- 1 Turn on all peripherals connected to your computer such as the monitor, printer, fax, speakers, etc.
- 2 On your computer's rear panel, set the voltage selector switch<sup>1</sup> to the voltage range applicable in your area (a).



**Note:** For models with no voltage selector switch and main power switch, proceed to step 3.

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<sup>1</sup> Applies to selected models only.

- 3 On the front panel of your computer, press the power button.



When the computer finishes booting, it is now ready for use.



**Important:** Make sure that the power cable is properly plugged in into an electrical outlet. If you are using a power strip or an AVR (Auto-Voltage Regulator), make sure that it is plugged in and turned on.

## Turning off your Aspire

**Option 1: Quickstart OFF.** Your Aspire will continue to run in the Quickstart OFF condition. It will appear that it is OFF. When you press the power button to switch your Aspire to the fully ON condition, it will do so in only a few seconds.

**Option 2: Traditional OFF.** If you want your Aspire to completely power OFF (if you need to unplug it):

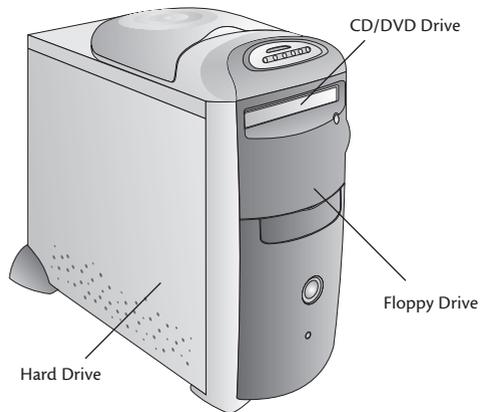
- 1 Click on the Start button  on the taskbar.
- 2 Click on Shut Down.
- 3 Click on Shut Down the Computer and click Yes. Your computer will guide you through saving any open files and then will shut down Windows Me. Your computer will then turn off all computer power automatically. You will have to manually turn off your monitor after you see the computer power go off.

## Drives on Your Computer

Whether it's the software program that you bought from your local computer store or the shopping list you just typed up using your word processor, all information in a computer is stored electronically.

To save (write) data or retrieve (read) data, the computer uses a drive. There are different ways to store data, and each different type of data storage has a specific drive.

Three different types of drives come with your Aspire computer:



## Drives on Your Computer

Your fixed or hard drive is located inside your computer. This drive is typically called the C: drive in Windows.

### The Floppy Drive

This drive uses removable 3.5-inch floppy disks and is called the A: drive.

## Using Your Floppy Drive

Floppy disks are used for putting data into your computer or for taking it out.

- 1 Insert the floppy disk into the drive, as shown.  
(The metal circle on the disk's underside should be facing down.)



- 2 Push it in gently until it pops into place.
- 3 Remove the floppy disk by pressing the eject button.

## Formatting a Floppy Diskette

A floppy disk is, basically, just a thin piece of magnetic tape on which data can be stored electronically. Most floppy disks are protected with a hard plastic case. Before a floppy can be used, it must be formatted, or made ready to accept data.



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**Note:** Many stores sell preformatted 3.5-floppy disks.

- 1 Make sure your floppy is not write-protected.
- 2 Insert the diskette into your floppy drive.

- 3 Click on the Start button , point to Programs, and click on Windows Explorer.
- 4 Point to 3.5" Floppy (A:) under My Computer.
- 5 Click on the right mouse button, then select Format.



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**Cautions:** Formatting a disk removes any data that might have been saved on that disk. Also, be sure to keep your disks away from heat and other magnetic items that can damage the disk and the information on it.

### Why Disks? (Or Discs for that matter...)

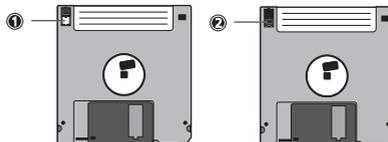
The advantage of a floppy disk or CD is that it makes data portable.

Practically all newly purchased software comes in one of these two formats.

Data is often exchanged between computers on floppy disks. Be aware that there is an inherent danger of virus infection in casual swapping or sharing of floppy disks with your friends and associates. Files, applications or programs downloaded from the Internet also carry possible danger.

### Write Protecting a Floppy Diskette

When the write protect notch is open (1), data cannot be written to (saved on) the disk. The notch must be closed (2) for data to be written to (copied on) the disk.



Write protecting diskettes is a good way to keep them safe from viruses, should you use them in a different computer.

## The CD-ROM Drive

The CD-ROM drive uses CDs (Compact Discs) instead of floppy disks, and it is Read Only Memory, which means that the computer can read data from the disc, but cannot write anything new on it. It is typically called the D: drive. On some computers, the CD-ROM may be another drive letter. Please refer to My Computer for the current drive letter assignment on your Windows desktop.

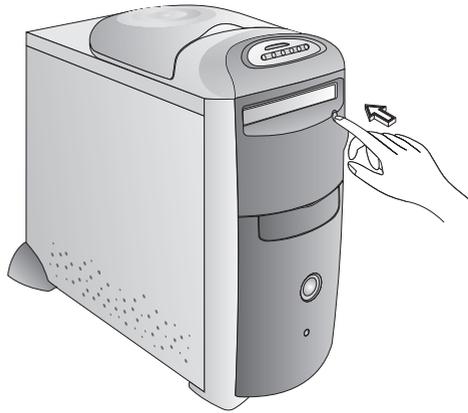
## The DVD-ROM Drive (option)

The DVD-ROM (Digital Versatile Disc or Digital Video Disc - Read Only Memory) is a type of optical media. It can hold capacities ranging from 4.7 GB to a maximum of 17 GB, and can support access rates from 600 Kilobytes per second to 1.2 Megabytes per second. It is backward-compatible with CD-ROMs which means that DVD players can play not only DVD-ROMs, but CD-ROMs, CD-I discs, video CDs, and CD-R discs as well. DVD uses MPEG-2 to compress video data.

## Using Your CD/DVD Drive

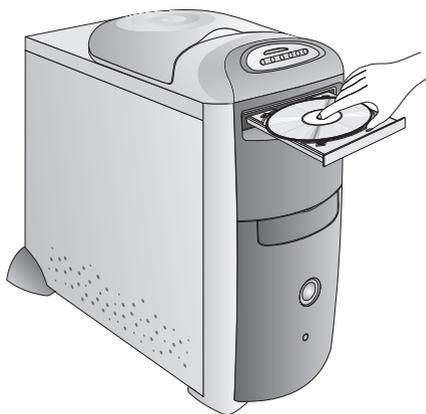
Unlike floppy disks, CD/DVD discs can be used only for putting data into your computer. Your Aspire computer can use two types of CD-ROM discs: audio discs and data discs. Data CDs can hold a lot of information and very large programs. One CD can hold more information than is contained on 450 floppy diskettes.

- 1 Press the eject button to manually open or close the CD tray.



**Note:** It may take up to 30 seconds for a disc to stop spinning before the drive opens up. If you try to run the software when you first insert the CD (or DVD) and you get an error message like Drive Not Ready, wait a few seconds, then try again.

- 2 To insert a CD or a DVD, place it in the tray with the title side facing up, then press the CD eject button to close it.



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**Note:** Your CD/DVD drive will probably emit a sound like that of a fan. Unless you are having other problems with your drive, you should not be concerned.

## The CD-RW Drive (option)

The CD-RW (CD Recordable/ReWritable drive allows you to burn CDs. It can also read CD-ROMs, video CDs, CD-R and CD-RW. CD Recordable are write-once discs while CD Rewritable can be rewritten.

### **Caring for your CDs and DVDs**

A CD/DVD has two sides:

- The title side tells you which CD/DVD it is.
- The data side stores all the data.

Remember the following guidelines when handling your CDs and DVDs:

- CDs and DVDs are fragile, so when handling your CDs or DVDs, hold them by the edges to avoid leaving smudges or fingerprints.
- Always keep them in a disc case when not in use to avoid scratches or other damage. Any kind of dirt or damage can affect the data on the disc, impair the disc lens reader on the CD and DVD drives, or stop the computer from successfully reading the disc.
- To clean your CDs and DVDs, use a clean, dust-free cloth and wipe in a straight line from the center to the edge. Continue around the whole disc. (DO NOT wipe in a circle.) You can also periodically clean your CD/DVD drive to prevent problems from reading CDs/DVDs on your computer.

## The Mouse (Corded and Wireless)

Both corded and wireless mouse have the features written below.

### Features of a mouse

The mouse uses a cursor called a pointer. Pointers come in many different shapes but are most commonly shaped like an arrow.

Your mouse has two buttons: a left button and a right button. Quickly pressing and releasing one of these buttons is called clicking. Sometimes you will need to double-click or click the same button twice quickly. In this manual, click means to position your mouse point on an icon and to single click the left button. When a right-click is required, this is stated clearly. Double-click also refers to the left button.

The ratchet wheel in between the two buttons is added to provide easier scrolling capability. By simply moving the wheel with your index finger, you can quickly move through multiple pages, line, or windows. The wheel may also function as a third button allowing you to quickly click or double-click an icon or a selected item.



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**Note:** Note: If you are left-handed, please refer to your Windows Me manual for instructions on how to set up your mouse for left-handed use.

## Setting up your wireless mouse

Unlike a corded mouse, a wireless mouse needs setting up before it can work.

- 1 Before you proceed, make sure your computer is completely turned off (see page4).
- 2 Insert batteries in your wireless mouse:
  - a Turn over your mouse and press the tab on the bottom to remove the battery compartment cover on top of your mouse.
  - b Insert two AAA Alkaline batteries, making sure to properly orient the positive (+) and negative (-) ends as specified by the battery compartment labels.



- c Close the compartment cover.



**Note:** When your wireless mouse is running out of battery, a pop-up window will remind you to recharge it.

## Configuring your mouse

You can customize the buttons on your mouse to meet your need.

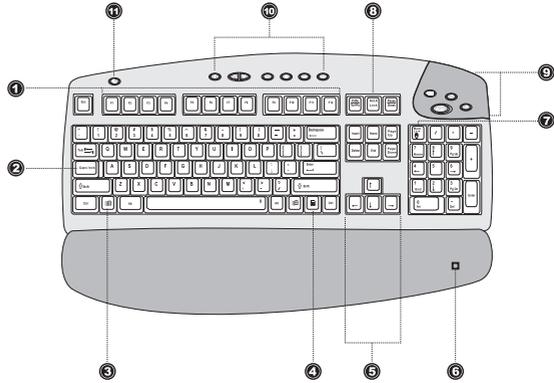
- 1 Turn on your Aspire computer.
- 2 Click iTouch  in the taskbar and a configuration window will pop up.
- 3 Select the functions you prefer, following the instructions.

## Resetting your wireless mouse

When the battery is recharged or your cursor doesn't move or jerks around the screen, you may need to reset your mouse. (See Troubleshooting)

- 1 Press "**Connect**"  button of the receiver on the front panel.
- 2 Press "**Connect**" button of the bottom of your mouse.

## The Keyboard (Corded and Wireless)



The way keys are used varies from program to program. Here are some of the most common uses which apply to both corded and wireless keyboards:

No.	Component	Function
1	Function keys (F1 - F12)	Numbered F1 through F12, each will perform a specific and well-defined function, should an application use them.
2	Caps Lock	Locks the capital letters in place. Pressing it again will take the Caps Lock off. (A Caps Lock indicator light will turn on when the Caps Lock is on.)
3	Windows logo key 	Brings up the Windows Start menu.
4	Application key 	Displays drop-down menus from icons (same as right click) and currently active applications.
5	Cursor Arrow keys	Move the cursor in the directions that the arrows point.

No.	Component	Function
6	Palm reset (detachable)	Provides a comfortable place to rest your hands while typing.
7	Num Lock	When the Num Lock/Num Pad key is on, the keys on the numeric key pad can be used for entering numbers. When it's off, these keys become arrow keys, page up and page down keys as indicated on the bottom half of the key.
8	Internet Keys	Provides four programmable keys: My home  , E-mail  , Search  , Go  . You can customize these keys to launch a program, a web site, or a menu of programs, web sites, or Internet search engines of your choosing.
9	Scroll Lock	When activated, the screen moves one line up or down when you press the up arrow or down arrow respectively. Take note that Scroll Lock may not work with some applications.
10	Multimedia Keys	Provides standard CD-player controls for playing music on PC: Play/Pause  , Stop  , Previous Track  , Next Track  , Mute  , Volume Up  , and Volume Down  .
11	Suspend 	Provides access to the Windows Shutdown dialog box.

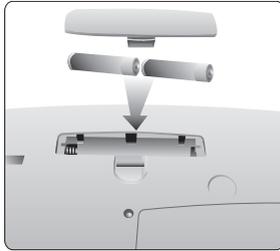
Below are other keyboard keys which can help you perform your tasks:

- **Esc key.** Exits the current action, screen, or program.
- **Tab key.** Moves the cursor over a set number of spaces in word processing software. In other types of programs, it moves the cursor from one field (an area on the screen where data can be entered) to the next.
- **Enter key.** Starts a new paragraph in word processing. In other programs, it accepts data entered or shows that an action is complete.
- **Shift key.** Pressing this key while typing a letter or symbol key will give you the capital letter or symbol on the top of the key.
- **Insert key.** When activated, inserts data vs. typing over/replacing it.
- **Delete key.** Will delete data that is highlighted or to the right of the cursor.
- **Home key.** Takes you to the beginning of a line.
- **End key.** Takes you to the end of a line.
- **Page Up / Page Down keys.** Move you up or down a screen at a time.
- **Backspace key.** Is similar to the delete key above, but it will delete one character at a time to the left of the cursor.
- **Alt and Ctrl keys.** Have varying functions on their own or when used with other keys, depending on the software being used.

## Setting up your wireless keyboard

Unlike a corded keyboard, a wireless keyboard needs setting up before it can work.

- 1 Before you proceed, make sure your computer is completely turned off (see page4).
- 2 Insert batteries in your wireless keyboard:
  - a Turn over your keyboard and squeeze the battery compartment cover in from the tab to release it.
  - b Insert two AA Alkaline batteries, making sure to properly orient the positive (+) and negative (-) ends as specified by the battery compartment labels.



- c Close the compartment cover.



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**Note:** When your wireless keyboard is running out of battery, a pop-up window will remind you to recharge it.

## Configuring your keyboard

You can customize the keys on your wireless keyboard to meet your need.

- 1 Turn on your Aspire computer.
- 2 Click iTouch  in the taskbar and a configuration window will pop up.
- 3 Select the functions you prefer, following the instructions.

## Resetting your wireless keyboard

When the battery is recharged or your keyboard doesn't work, you may need to reset your keyboard.  
(See Troubleshooting)

- 1 Press "**Connect**"  button of the receiver on the front panel.
- 2 Press "**Connect**" button on the right side of your keyboard.

## The Monitor

Connect a monitor by simply plugging the monitor cable into the monitor/VGA port located on the back of your computer. Then plug the power cable into a power outlet.



**Note:** Refer to the manual that came with your Aspire monitor for more information on the monitor features.

## The Speakers

Your system comes with a set of speakers. Connect it to your system either through the front or rear audio -out/line -out port of your computer. Then plug the power cable into the power cable socket located on the rear panel of your computer and plug the other end of the power cable into a power outlet.



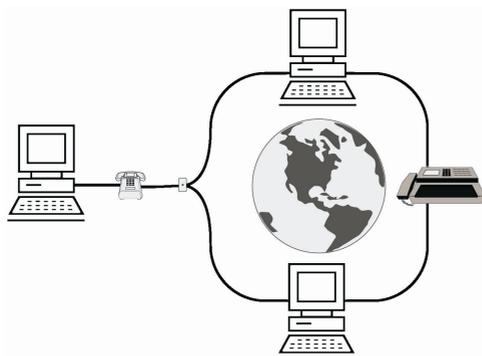
**Note:** Please refer to the manual that came with your speakers for more information.

## Your Data/Fax Modem

Your data/fax modem makes it possible for you to communicate electronically around the globe.

Once you've plugged your telephone line into your Acer computer, you can:

- Access the Internet <sup>2</sup>
- Send and receive faxes
- Send and receive emails <sup>2</sup>



## Accessing the Internet

Your Aspire computer comes with the ability to link to the Internet. <sup>3</sup> With the Internet you can visit Acer for updates, send email to friends and family, book vacations, read up on the latest blockbuster movie, and much, much more. All you need is a phone line to hook the modem up to, and an account with an Internet Service Provider (ISP).

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<sup>2</sup> Requires an account with an Internet Service Provider.

<sup>3</sup> You may be required to pay toll charges, monthly or hourly usage fees, and other setup charges. Check with your Internet Service Provider for details.

## Connecting an Optional Printer

- 1 Make sure your computer is completely turned off (see page 4).
- 2 Connect the printer cable purchased with your printer from the printer to the printer port on the back of your computer.



- 3 Plug your printer power cable into a wall outlet or power strip.
- 4 Turn on the printer.
- 5 Turn on the computer.



**Note:** For printer driver installation to go smoothly, it is important to turn on your printer first so Windows can recognize that a printer is connected to the computer.

## Printer Driver Installation

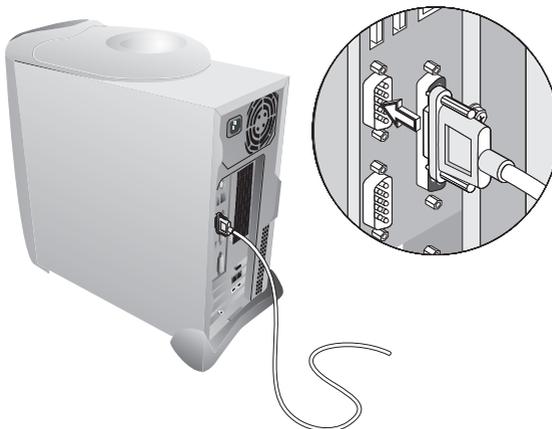
To print from your Aspire, you need a printer driver - a program that tells your computer what kind of printer it is printing to.

Windows has automatic detection for all of the more popular printers. If your printer is not available in Windows Me, look in the printer's user guide for instructions. Please contact the manufacturer of your printer if you have problems or questions.

- 1 Click on the Start button  .
- 2 Point to Setting, then click on Printers.
- 3 Double -click Add Printer.
- 4 Follow the directions on the screen, and be sure to test the printer when prompted. You should now be able to print successfully from your Aspire.

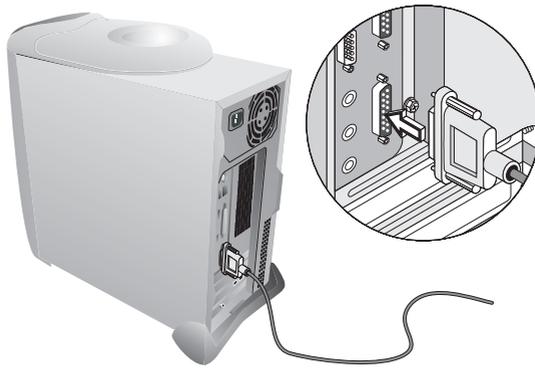
## Connecting an Optional Serial Device

- 1 Before you proceed, make sure your computer is completely turned off (see page 4).
- 2 Locate the serial port on the back of your computer.
- 3 Plug your serial device cable into this port.



## Connecting an Optional Joystick or MIDI Device

- 1 Before you proceed, make sure your computer is completely turned off (see page 4).
- 2 Locate the Game/MIDI port on the back of your computer.
- 3 Plug your joystick or MIDI device cable into this port.



# Getting the Most from your Aspire Audio System

## Playing an Audio CD

Would you like to play a little music while you work? Pop your favorite audio CD into the CD-ROM drive, wait ten to twenty seconds and, voila! Music!

## Special features of Audio DJ

Audio DJ's special features make it possible to use your computer audio system even when your computer is turned off. Combining audio entertainment functions of a home electronic appliance, the console is designed to play music regardless of your computer's power state.

Besides, the console's convenient location at the top makes it easy to control despite that your computer is on or under the desk.

## Using Audio DJ when the computer is off

- 1 Press any button on the console to start the audio function.
- 2 Press **Eject** ■ ▲ button to open the CD tray.
- 3 To insert a CD, place it in the tray with the title side facing up, then press the **Eject** ■ ▲ button to close it.
- 4 Press **PLAY** ►/|| button to start listening music. Track one will be shown on the panel.
- 5 Press **Previous Track** ◀◀ or **Next Track** ▶▶ buttons to choose the track number that you want to listen to.
- 6 Audio DJ will stop automatically when the CD completes playing.



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**Note:** Audio DJ will always start from track one whenever it is stopped or paused.

## Using Audio DJ when the computer is on

When the computer is on, you can operate Audio DJ by the buttons on the console or any audio software you have installed in your computer system. You can refer to the steps of Using Audio DJ when the computer is off for controlling the console.

## Adjusting the Volume

There are several ways you can adjust the volume on your audio CD:

- Use the Multimedia Keys on your keyboard to control volume.
- Use the Audio DJ volume up/down buttons on the front panel to control volume.
- Click on the Volume icon  on the task bar at the bottom of your screen.



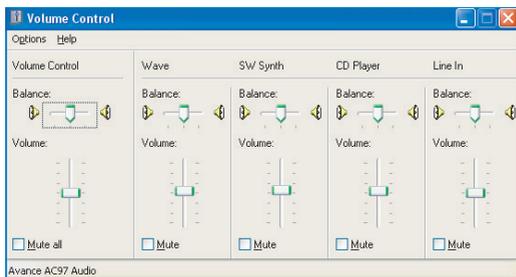
A volume control will pop up. Drag the volume control lever with your mouse until you find the level you want.

- Double-click on the Volume icon  to use the electronic mixing board.

## The Electronic Mixing Board

Your Aspire computer comes with an electronic mixing board that enables the experienced audiophile to make the most of the stereo sound system.

- 1 Double-click on the Volume icon  on the task bar at the bottom of your screen. The Master Volume window will open:



- 2 All of the options on this screen can be adjusted by dragging the slider bars.



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**Note:** The controls were balanced in the factory. We recommend that you do not change these settings unless you have some familiarity with sound mixing.

## Getting the Most from your New Video System

### New TV function(Optional)

Some models include a TV Tuner card, located in one of the PCI card slots at the back of the computer. The TV Tuner enables you to connect a standard television cable to your computer, allowing you to receive a television signal.

In addition to providing channel changing and image control, the included Power VCR software offers the benefit of time shifting. This means that you can pause viewing when you have to take a break, leaving the software to continue recording the television reception. You can then restart your viewing in the place where you left off, effectively watching the program with a time delay.

### Power VCR functions:

#### Surf channels

- 1 Be sure that your TV Tuner card (or capture card) is installed correctly or your PowerVCR screen will be blank.
- 2 Click on **Surf Channels** located in the video display area.
- 3 Click on **Auto Page** to allow a continuous refresh of sixteen new channels.
- 4 Click **Next** and **Previous Page** to preview other channels.
- 5 Click **Auto Scan** to scan for available channels.
- 6 Click **Cancel Surfing** to exit or select one specific channel by clicking on it to return to the normal display.

## Record TV programs

- 1 Be sure that your TV Tuner card (or capture card) is installed correctly or your PowerVCR screen will be blank.
- 2 Start PowerVCR. Click the source indicator until the indicator reads TV if you have an antenna or CATV if you have a cable wire.
- 3 Click the arrow located on the right edge of the PowerVCR panel to activate the TV Tuner Control.
- 4 Select a desired channel by using the number pad or left and right arrows.
- 5 Click on **Return** to return to the last channel.
- 6 Click **Auto Scan** to scan all the possible channels. To cancel the scanning, click **Cancel** once the **Auto Scan** dialog box appears and you will be returned to the original channel.
- 7 After you have selected the desired channel, click **Record**.
- 8 Click **Stop** when you are finished.
- 9 The playlist will appear for you to save it.
- 10 To delete all the file(s), click **Delete**.
- 11 Click **OK** when the dialog box appears to confirm your deletion.
- 12 Click on **Save to...** to save it to another folder other than the default folder.
- 13 A dialog box will appear for you to save it in another folder or to rename it. Click **Save** when you are finished.

## Time-shifting

- 1 Be sure you are in the **Live/Digital Recorder** mode.
- 2 Click **System Settings**.
- 3 Click the **Recording/Advanced** tab and in the **Advanced Options** section, click **Enable time-shifting playback when recording**.
- 4 Click **OK** to exit System Settings.
- 5 Click **Record**.
- 6 Click **Time-shifting**.
- 7 The mode will switch to Time-shifting. Click **Play** to begin time-shifting playback.
- 8 To **Fast Forward**, **Rewind**, or **Pause**, click the corresponding buttons.
- 9 To return to the recording in progress (i.e. the Live/Digital Recorder mode), click **Stop** or **Time-shifting** again.

## Adding Options to your Aspire

You can add hard drives, memory, expansion cards, and other options to your Aspire computer. For directions on upgrading and how to disassemble the computer chassis, refer to the online guide.

You can find information regarding your motherboard jumper settings by referring to the panel inside your Aspire chassis.

### Opening/Closing Your Aspire



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**Caution!** Always turn off your computer and unplug it before opening the case. For more information on the complete system shut-down, refer to “Setting up your Aspire” on page 2.

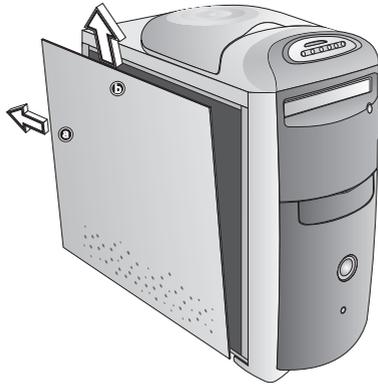
#### **Electrostatic Discharge Precautions**

Always observe the following electrostatic discharge (ESD) precautions before installing a system component:

- ESD can cause permanent damage to your computer.
- Do not remove a component from its antistatic packaging until you are ready to install it.
- Wear a wrist grounding strap before handling electronic components. Wrist grounding straps are available at most electronic component stores.
- At a minimum, keep a hand in contact with the metal system housing to reduce the ESD effect.

## Removing the Left Panel Cover

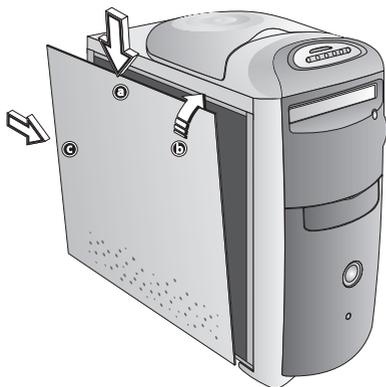
- 1 Turn off your computer and unplug all cables.
- 2 Place your computer on a flat, steady surface.
- 3 Turn the thumbscrew counterclockwise with your fingers to release the side panel. Set the screw aside. You will need them when replacing the side panel.
- 4 Gently push the computer's side panel slightly backward (a), then pull it upward to remove it from the chassis (b).



## Replacing the Left Panel Cover

After you install the system components into the housing, you must replace the left panel cover.

- 1 Align the side panel to the housing frame (a), gently push it in (b), then slide it forward into place (c).
- 2 Use the thumbscrew you have previously removed, turning it clockwise, to secure the side panel.



## Connecting USB Devices

The Universal Serial Bus (USB) on your Aspire allows for easy and convenient expansion options. With it, installing devices such as digital cameras, scanners, and joysticks is a breeze. Two USB connectors are located on the back of your computer while another two are located inside the multimedia port bay in front of your computer.



**Note:** Most USB devices have a built-in USB port which allows you to daisy-chain other devices.

# Need Help?

Acer is dedicated to bringing you a reliable and easy to maintain computer. We realize, though, that problems can arise unexpectedly. Please refer to the troubleshooting tips in this section to help diagnose and solve your problems.

## Troubleshooting - General

Here are some answers to commonly asked questions:

### **The Start button is not displayed on screen.**

The taskbar has either been resized too small or it is in a hidden location.

To retrieve the taskbar:

- 1 Press the Start key  on the keyboard.
- 2 Press the Esc key to close the Start menu.  
(The taskbar is still selected.)
- 3 Press the Alt + Spacebar keys together and select "size."
- 4 Use the Arrow keys to resize the taskbar to the desired size and press the Enter key when done.

### **My computer will not shut off completely.**

For more information, refer to "Turning off your Aspire" on page 4.

### **My CD or DVD does not always work, and it does not eject all the time.**

- 1 The CD or DVD being used is most likely dirty or scratched. Clean the CD or DVD.
- 2 If cleaning the CD or DVD doesn't correct the problem, call Acer Technical Support.

**My modem connects, but there is no dial tone.**

- 1 Check to see if the phone lines (in and out) are properly connected. Sometimes the line to the phone and the line to the wall jacks are reversed. If needed, refer to the Easy Setup poster that came with your Aspire computer.
- 2 Ensure that all phones using this line have been hung up.

**My modem does not work.**

- 1 Ensure that the line from the wall jack is plugged into the jack on the back of the computer labeled Line or Wall.
- 2 Ensure that the line from the wall jack to the computer is tightly plugged in on each end.
- 3 If the modem still doesn't work, disconnect any phones or other equipment that may be on the same line.
- 4 If the modem still doesn't work, temporarily disable any special services on the line, such as call waiting.

**My monitor remains dark when system is turned on**

- 1 Make sure that the monitor power indicator is lit.
- 2 Check brightness and contrast settings.
- 3 If the problem still persists, ensure that the monitor is plugged in and the cable from the monitor to the computer is securely attached.

**My monitor will not turn on.**

- 1 If the monitor Power button light is not lit, verify that the monitor is plugged in to a power source.
- 2 If the monitor Power button light is lit, but is blinking instead of steady, verify that the monitor video cable is fully connected to the computer. If needed, refer to the Easy Setup poster.
- 3 If the computer Power button light is blinking, press it once.
- 4 If necessary, unplug the computer and monitor, then inspect the monitor cable connector for bent or broken pins.

**My sound is bad or uneven or my system has no sound.**

- 1 Turn up the volume on the keyboard control.
- 2 In Windows, double-click on the Volume icon (located near the clock in the taskbar) to verify that the volume control is up and mute is not turned on, or use the volume knob on your keyboard.

**My system freezes.**

If your system hangs up, or freezes for some reason, you can reboot (restart) the computer by pressing the Ctrl + Alt + Del keys simultaneously. Follow the onscreen instructions.

If this does not successfully restart the system, you have another option:

- 1 Push the Power button on your computer, holding it in for approximately four seconds or until your screen goes dark. This will completely turn off your computer.
- 2 Push the Power button again to turn the computer back on.



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**Note:** Whenever you reboot your system, you will lose any unsaved data.

**My floppy drive won't read my disk.**

- 1 Eject the disk from the floppy drive, then reinsert it and try again.
- 2 Verify that the disk is correctly formatted. You will lose any data on this disk if you format it.
- 3 Verify that the problem is the disk, not the drive, by checking another floppy that you know is valid.

## Troubleshooting - Feature problems

### Wireless Keyboard/Mouse

#### About Batteries

**What type of batteries should I use?**

Only alkaline batteries should be used, regardless of brand.

**What kind of battery life can I expect?**

The battery life of a cordless device depends upon the model and amount of use. With cordless optical devices, you can expect the unit to use a set of batteries every two months. Other cordless devices can use one set of batteries for up to six months.

**I changed my batteries and now my pointer doesn't move or my keyboard doesn't work. What happened?**

First, verify you have inserted the batteries with the correct polarity. Second, and most common, the mouse/keyboard and receiver may need to be re-synchronized. Therefore, you can just press the "Connect"  button on the front panel then press the connect button on the bottom of the mouse/keyboard.

#### About the Cordless Technology

**Do your cordless products use Radio frequency or Infrared technology?**

Our cordless products use radio frequency to communicate.

**What frequency or frequencies do your cordless products use?**

Channel 1: 26.995 MHz

Channel 2: 27.045 MHz

## General Usage Questions

### **How do I get the cordless mouse or keyboard to communicate with the receiver?**

You can simply press the “connect”  button on the front panel, and then press the connect button on the bottom of the mouse and keyboard.

### **What is the range can I expect from my cordless mouse or keyboard?**

In general, the range should be up to 6 feet.

### **My cursor doesn't move or jerks around the screen; what's wrong?**

It is likely the mouse/keyboard and receiver may need to be re-synchronized. You can just press the “Connect”  button on the front panel then press the connect button on the bottom of the mouse/keyboard.

Also, any electrical device such as the computer monitor, Zip drives, speakers, etc., can cause interference with cordless products. Most likely, this will affect tracking of pointing devices or the range. Also, using cordless devices on a metal desk or a desk with a metal frame can cause problems with pointing device behavior and range. To resolve these types of issues, try moving your system at least 8 inches away from other electrical devices. Interference issues can also be resolved by moving the mouse closer to the system.

## Interference Questions

### **Will my cordless mouse or keyboard interfere with my cordless phone?**

No, cordless devices operate at such a low frequency that they will not interfere with most cordless devices.

### **What can cause interference with my cordless product, and what can I do?**

Any electrical device, such as the computer monitor, Zip drives, speakers, etc., can cause interference with cordless products. Most likely, this will affect tracking of pointing devices or the range of the device. Also, using cordless devices on a metal desk or a desk with a metal frame can cause problems with pointing device behavior and range. To resolve these types of issues, try moving your system at least 8 inches away from other electrical devices. Interference issues can also be resolved by moving the mouse closer to your system.



**Note:** You should always get at least a 4 feet range. If you find that your cordless device gets less than a 4 feet range, please replace the batteries with a fresh set, perform the synchronization procedure for the mouse and/or keyboard and test the range again. If the range is still below 4 feet, please test your device on another system, preferably in a different environment. If the range improves on another system, then it may be an environmental variable. Use the suggestions above to resolve the environmental interference issue. Please refer to iTouch on-line help for more information.

## Multi-Cordless User Environment Issues

The following questions and answers apply when multiple cordless units are being used in close proximity to each other.

### **How many cordless devices can I use in one area?**

Cordless devices have a range of 6 feet, but under certain conditions, they can exceed that. To avoid possible interference, try to keep the distance from system to system at least 10 feet. Also, moving the mouse closer or further away to your system can also improve transmission and performance.

There isn't a specific number of cordless devices that you can/cannot use in one area, as there are a lot of environmental variables that will effect the performance of the cordless device. It is feasible to use many units in one area, provided you install them incrementally and be aware of the environmental variables.

### **When I move my cordless mouse, it moves the cursor on the system next to me. What should I do?**

This is called "Cross talk" and is characterized by one cordless device controlling the cursor or keyboard input of another device connected to a different computer. To avoid possible interference, try to keep the distance between systems at least 10 feet. Also, moving the mouse closer or further away to your system can also improve transmission and performance. If the above fails, try pressing and holding the "Connect"  button on the front panel for 10 seconds. This will reset the receiver's connection information and allow you to do a first time connection with the receiver and mouse or keyboard. After holding the Connect button for 10 seconds, then press the Connect/Channel button on the bottom of the mouse to synchronize it with the receiver. If you have a cordless keyboard instead of, or in addition to, a cordless mouse, press the "Connect"  button of the front panel again, then press the "Connect" button on the Keyboard.

**When I type on my cordless keyboard, the text is displayed on another keyboard using a cordless desktop system. What can we do to break the interference?**

This also is considered cross talk, and the above solutions apply. However, one step that should be tried before the steps mentioned above is to remove the batteries for 15 minutes. Then insert them and boot the computer up. It is important that during this time, you do not press the “**Connect**”  button on the front panel or keyboard of the other cordless desktop system.

**When I move my cordless mouse the user next cannot move the cursor on their system until I stop moving my mouse. What should I do?**

This is called “Jamming” and occurs when one cordless device is in use and causes another cordless device to stop functioning until the first device stops moving. To avoid possible interference, try to keep the distance between systems at least 10 feet. Also, moving the mouse closer or further away to your system can also improve transmission and performance. If the above fails, try pressing and holding the “**Connect**”  button on the front panel for 10 seconds. This will reset the receiver’s connection information and allow you to do a first time connection with the receiver and mouse or keyboard. After holding the Connect button for 10 seconds, then press the “**Connect**”  button on the bottom of the mouse to synchronize it with the receiver. If you have a cordless keyboard instead of, or in addition to, a cordless mouse, press the “**Connect**”  button on the front panel again, then press the “**Connect**” button on the Keyboard.

**I put a CD in my DVD player, and press the “Play/Pause” key, but nothing happens. Why?**

In order to use the multimedia keys for your DVD player, you must launch the DVD player first.

## Troubleshooting - Error Messages

I keep getting one of the following error messages:

### **Equipment Configuration Error**

This error occurs when the CMOS settings have been changed to a configuration that prevents successful boot-up. Press the Ctrl + Alt + Esc keys, after the beep during the boot process, then select Restore Default Settings to restore the original CMOS values.

### **CMOS Battery Error**

Call Acer Technical Support.

### **CMOS Checksum Error**

Press the Ctrl + Alt + Esc keys, after the beep during the boot process, then select Restore Default Settings to restore the original CMOS values. If the error message continues, call Acer Technical Support.

### **Diskette Drive Controller Error or Not Installed**

Call Acer Technical Support.

### **Diskette Drive Error**

Diskette may be defective. Verify with a known good diskette.

### **Diskette Drive A: Type Mismatch**

Press the Ctrl + Alt + Esc keys, after the beep during the boot process, then select Restore Default Settings.

### **Hard disk Controller Error**

Call Acer Technical Support.

**Hard disk 0 Error**

Call Acer Technical Support.

**Hard disk 1 Error**

Call Acer Technical Support.

**Keyboard Error, No Keyboard Connected or Keyboard Interface Error**

Check that the keyboard is securely plugged into the correct port on the back of the computer.

## Additional Acer Services

### About the Aspire Web Site

The Acer Internet site <http://www.acer.com/><sup>4</sup> has answers for the most frequently asked support questions and offers a searchable database of extensive technical information, new product data and upgrade information. Use it:

- When you can't find the information you need in your manual or online help, and before you call Technical Support.
- When you want to find upgrade information or bug fixes.
- When you're curious about Acer!

### Acer Technical Support

During the warranty period, should you have a problem with your system or if you think something isn't working, contact Acer Technical Support at <http://www.acersupport.com/>. Acer Technical Support provides help for warranty related issues, such as a hardware problem.

Before you contact Acer, please take a few minutes to write down a description of the problem. This will help us provide you with better quality support.

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<sup>4</sup> Requires an account with an Internet Service Provider.

## Notices

### Disclaimer of Warranties

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### Disclaimer

Not all features described in this handbook will be available on all models. Acer is continually updating its products to meet customer needs and hardware and software specifications may vary from time to time. Please refer to your box label for the specifications for your particular system.

### Join Us to Fight Against Piracy

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## System Warranty Information

For Limited Product Warranty information, please refer to the following pages.

The Acer warranty does not cover the following

- Acer products purchased from any source other than Acer or its authorized resellers
- All software and hardware not factory pre-installed
- Questions regarding all software, including factory pre-installed software
- Online services, including the Internet
- Damage from misuse, abuse, or neglect
- Coverage for anyone who purchases, leases, or otherwise obtains an Acer computer from the original owner
- Improper installation or use of third-party hardware products
- Modification of the Acer computer
- Product that requires periodic replacement, such as notebook batteries, etc.
- Damage or loss of any programs, data, or removable storage media
- Any consequential damages including lost profits or business

## Limited Product Warranty

Acer, in an effort to provide computers of the highest quality and reliability, subjects all its computers and components to extensive testing and inspection procedures. Acer's manufacturing facilities have been certified to ISO-9000 international quality standards. Before a component can be eligible for installation in an Acer computer offered for sale, it must first pass stringent quality, inspection and testing procedures. Be assured that this Product and its components have met Acer's highest quality, testing and inspection procedures for new products and are fully backed by Acer's limited warranty.

### **A. Acer Limited Warranty**

Acer warrants the Product you have purchased from Acer or from an Acer Authorized Reseller to be free from defects in materials or workmanship under normal use during the warranty period applicable to the Product. The warranty period commences on the date of purchase. Your original purchase invoice (sales receipt), showing the date of purchase of the Product, is your proof of the date of purchase. This warranty extends only to you, the original Purchaser. It is not transferable to anyone who subsequently

purchases, leases or otherwise obtains the Product from you. It excludes expendable parts.

During the warranty period, Acer will, at no additional charge, repair or replace defective hardware with factory-refinished parts or products. All exchanged parts and Products replaced under this warranty will become the property of Acer.

In the event the Product exhibits a defect in material or workmanship within the warranty period, Acer will provide the warranty services applicable to the Product.

### **B. Registration**

To register, please call the available customer technical support center in your country. Refer to Shop Acer for a complete list of contact information.

If your product comes with a warranty registration card, please refer to the instructions on the card.

### **C. Warranty Limitation; Exclusions; Exclusive Remedies**

This Limited Warranty does not extend to any Product not purchased from Acer or from an Acer Authorized Reseller. The product ("Product") you have purchased may include one or more components previously installed in a product that was returned after sale and possible use. This Limited Warranty also does not extend to any Product that has been damaged or rendered defective (a) as a result of use of the Product other than for its normal intended use, failure to use the Product in accordance with the User's Manual that accompanies the Product, or other misuse, abuse or negligence to the Product; (b) by the use of parts not manufactured or sold by Acer; (c) by modification of the Product; (d) as a result of service by anyone other than Acer or an Acer Authorized Service Provider; or (e) improper transportation or packing when returning the Product to Acer or an Acer Authorized Service Provider; (f) improper installation of third-party products (e.g. memory cards).

This Limited Warranty does not extend to expendable parts. Expendable parts are those items that during the normal course of product usage will require periodic replacement, e.g., printer cartridges, notebook batteries, etc.

Add-on Components (HDD, CD-ROM, Sound Cards, etc.) purchased from Acer and not installed in an Acer system are covered by a limited warranty as defined on the Warranty Card which comes with the component. For components purchased from Acer or an Acer Authorized Reseller and installed in an Acer system which are defined as "Supported" on Acer's Qualified Vendor List, Acer will provide warranty technical support and

part replacement service for the duration of the system warranty. The warranty service provided on these supported components will be equal to the warranty service in effect on the system on which the components are installed. Proof of purchase from Acer for all components is required. You may verify what components are defined as "Supported" on the Acer Qualified Vendor List by contacting your Acer Authorized Reseller or Distributor or by calling Acer Technical Support.

Acer is not responsible for damage to or loss of any programs, data or removable storage media. You are responsible for saving (backing up) any programs, data or removable storage media.

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# FCC Statement

## FCC Class B Radio Frequency Interference

### Statement

**Note:** This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- 1 Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- 2 Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- 3 Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- 4 Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for help.

#### **Notice 1:**

The changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

#### **Notice 2:**

Shielded interface cables, if any, must be used in order to comply with the emission limits.

## Fax/Modem and FCC Compliance

This equipment complies with Part 68 of the FCC Rules. On this equipment is a label that contains, among other information, the FCC registration number for this equipment. You must, upon request, provide this information along with the Ringer Equivalence Number (REN) of 0.8, to your telephone company.

If your telephone equipment causes harm to the telephone network, the Telephone Company may discontinue your service temporarily. If possible, they will notify in advance. But, if advance notice isn't practical, you will be notified as soon as possible. You will be informed of your right to file a complaint with the FCC.

Your telephone company may make changes in its facilities, equipment, operations, or procedures that could affect proper operation of your equipment. If they do, you will be notified in advance to give you an opportunity to maintain uninterrupted telephone service.

The FCC prohibits this equipment to be connected to party lines or coin-telephone service.

In the event that this equipment should fail to operate properly, disconnect the equipment from the phone line to determine if it is causing the problem. If the problem is with the equipment, discontinue use and contact your dealer or vendor.

The FCC also requires the transmitter of a FAX transmission be properly identified (per FCC Rules Part 68, Sec. 68.381 (c) (3)).

## Acer Year 2000 Compliance Statement

This product is Year 2000-compliant and carries the “NSTL Hardware Tested Year 2000 Compliant” logo. This product has been tested both by Acer’s internal test labs and NSTL using NSTL’s YMARK2000 certification test. These tests certify that the product will successfully make the year 2000 transition.



For more details, check the Acer Year 2000 Resource Center at <http://global.acer.com/service/pcy2000.html>.

## CD and DVD Drive Safety Warning

**DANGER** Invisible radiation when open. Avoid exposure to beam.

**VORSICHT** Unsichtbare laserstrahlung wenn geöffnet. Nicht in den strahl sehen.

**ATTENTION** Radiation du faisceau laser invisible. En cas d'ouverture. Eviter toute exposition aux rayons.

**VARO** Avattaessa olet alttiina näkymättömälle lasersäteilylle älä katso säteeseen.

**WARNING!** Osynling laserstrålning när denna del är öppnad. Stirra ej in i strålen.

**ADVARSEL** Laserstrålning ved åbning. Se ikke ind i strålen.

CLASS 1 LASER PRODUCT  
 APPAREIL A LASER DE CLASSE 1  
 LASER KLASSE 1  
 LOUKAN 1 LASERLAITE  
 PRODUIT LASER  
 CATEGORIE 1

## Caution on Lithium Batteries

**CAUTION** Danger of explosion if battery is incorrectly replaced. Replace only with the same or equivalent type recommended by the manufacturer. Discard used batteries according to the manufacturer's instructions.

**ADVARSEL!** Lithiumbatteri-Eksplosjonsfare ved feilagtig håndtering. Udskiftning m kun ske med batteri af samme fabrikat og type. Léver det brugte batteri tilbage til leverandøren.

**ADVARSEL** Eksplosjonsfare ved feilaktig skifte av batteri. Benytt samme batteritype eller en tilsvarende type anbefalt av apparatfabrikanten. Brukte batterier kasseres i henhold til fabrikantens instruksjoner.

**WARNING** Explosionsfara vid felaktigt batteribyte. Använd samma batterityp eller en ekvivalent typ som rekommenderas av apparattillverkaren. Kassera anvnt batteri enligt fabrikantens instruktion.

**VAROITUS** Pärisko voi räjähtää, jos se on virheellisesti asennettu. Vaihda parisko ainoastaan laitevalmistajan suosittelemaan tyyppiin. Hävitä käytetty parisko valmistajan ohjeiden mukaisesti.

**VORSICHT!** Explosionsgefahr bei unsachgemäßen Austausch der Batterie Ersatz nur durch denselben oder einem vom Hersteller empfohlenem hnlichen Typ. Entsorgung gebrauchter Batterien nach Angaben des Herstellers.

