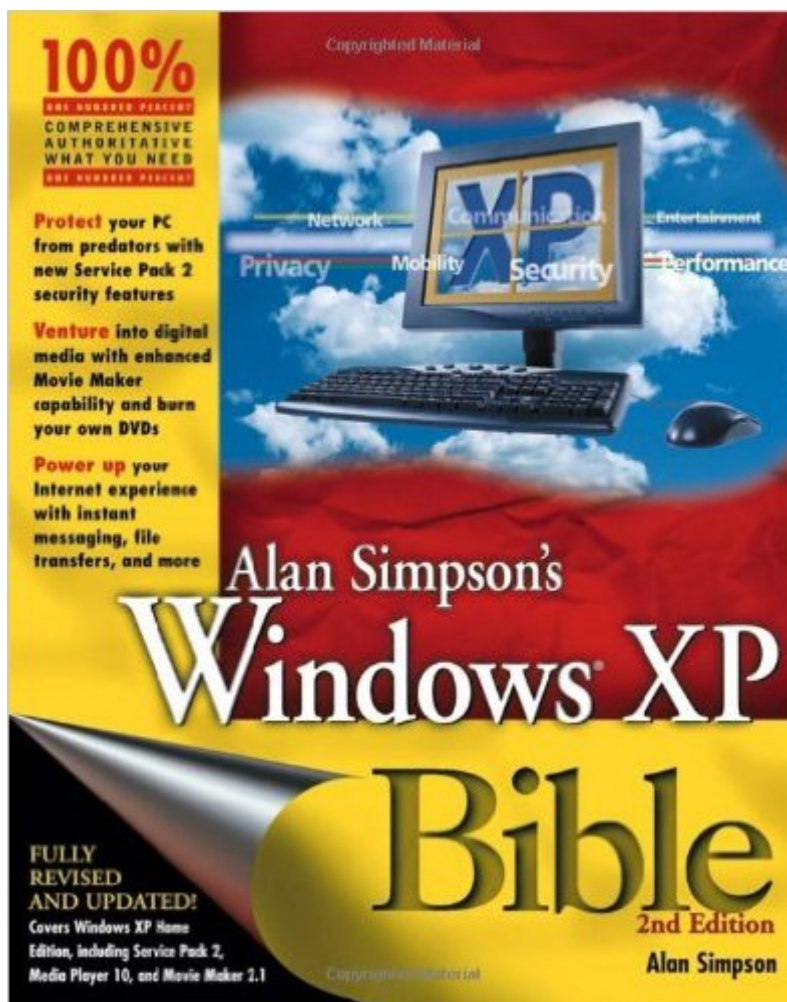


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# Alan Simpson's Windows XP Bible



## Synopsis

\* Jam-packed with more than 900 pages of comprehensive information on the Service Pack 2 update of Windows XP, this book covers the basics as well as more complex topics \* Features new coverage of Media Player 10, Movie Maker, and Service Pack 2, with sidebars, workarounds, solutions, and tips \* Focusing on Windows XP functionality, the book addresses the most popular Internet features, how to customize the work environment, maintain and tweak the system, and work with text, numbers, and graphics \* This is an ideal reference for users with limited Windows XP experience who need a comprehensive resource to make the most out of their hardware and operating system

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book seems like it is written for someone who has just been given their first computer by their grandchild. I have been using Windows 98 for 4 years and i feel fairly comfortable with my knowledge of the system. I purchased this book because i wanted to upgrade to Windows XP. THIS BOOK TAUGHT ME NOTHING!! I have read other Windows Bibles by Alan Simpson and have found them useful; however, that is not the case with this book. I have several criticisms of this book: 1- I read Window 98 Bible 4 years ago and am now upgrading to Windows XP. This book contains almost no new information and is in many ways, almost identical to the one i read 4 years ago. 2- The information it does contain is so basic and in many ways unrelated specifically to Windows XP. The first 200 pages are devoted to explaining what a mouse is, the difference between a monitor

and a keyboard, how to click on an icon and close a window, and how to read and send an e-mail.<sup>3</sup> The information it does contain about Windows XP is so elementary and devoid of any detail. For instance, while describing a particular concept, the author will show a picture of a dialog box, then, under it, list all the tabs in the dialog box, followed by a one-sentence description of what each tab is. There is no explanation of the many choices within each tab and menu, nor any discussion of what the myriad of functions actually do. In summary, if you have ever had a computer before with a Windows 95 or later and are fairly comfortable using it - especially if you have read one of the Windows Bible books before - you will not learn anything, at all from this book.

(This is a review of the 2nd edition) I've been an XP holdout for awhile now. My personal machines are all using W2K, and I'm perfectly happy with it. But I'll be buying a new desktop unit pretty soon, and at least part of the box will be running XP. I'll need a good reference book, and so I decided to review Windows XP Bible (2nd Edition) by Alan Simpson. While I know a lot of what's in there, there is some value for me. Section List: Getting Started; Customizing Windows XP; Managing Files and Folders; Printing and Faxing; Securing Your System; Power Using the Internet; Using and Creating Digital Media; Installing and Removing Programs; Installing, Using, and Troubleshooting Hardware; Performance and Maintenance Issues; Home and Small-Business Networking; Appendixes; Index Normally I'd list each of the chapters, but there's 64 of them. It'd take too long, and probably would reject the review for being over the word limit... :-)

The author calls this an intermediate/advanced book, as he assumes some basic computing skills before you get into the book. I'm thinking that a fair amount of the material is still beginner level stuff if you've worked with Windows at all in your life. That's not to say you can't learn some new tricks along the way, but explanations of files and folders is pretty basic. Having said that, the book doesn't stay at that level. The chapters on networking, digital media, and firewalls will get some attention from me when I get my new machine. Likewise, I'll also be closely reading the parts on system restore, performance tuning, and driver/device management. There are features in XP in those areas that I'm not up to speed on... Simpson covers a lot of ground in this book.

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