

Slimming Vista (vLite) 0.9a

By: Dan Teresinski (Deathman20 / Dman)

This guide is to help slim Vista Ultimate 64-bit edition down to a more reasonable level, from removing extra installation files, to disabling unnecessary programs/functions/modules that don't seem to have a practical function for Home Office/Gaming environment. This guide can be used for all versions but the size of the items should be smaller in the 32-bit editions. Some components won't be shown in lesser versions of Vista as well so if you don't see it, then it's not installing it since you don't have the key to unlock that component.

In this process to lighten Vista's install load, I've used vLite (www.vlite.net), which original started from nLite (www.nlite.net) that was so well known with Windows XP.

Sections

- Components

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A listing of components/modules/features, with recommendations of what can be left and what can be removed.

- Tweaks

Page: 9

This is a small list currently but it contains a small list of the tweaks available for vLite.

- Drivers, Trouble Shooting & Conclusion

Page: 10

Driver section of the install process, added trouble shooting issues and the wrap up of the guide overall.

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Components

Here is a listing of components that can be removed or left to be installed on Vista, but please note when going through the list below anything removed or that stays, can't be removed or added after installation currently. Would be a great feature in the future we could uninstall or install some of the features on this list like your media center or speech reconciliation features. Anyways to start off before we get into the list below I have a small table with a color chart which will represent what I think should be done with said module.

Color table fitted to recommendations:

Black: Don't check module, this will be installed

Red: Critical Item, don't check unless absolutely sure you want to (few items can actually be checked and won't harm function)

Green: Unused feature / Space user

Orange: Probably could remove this module

Drivers

- Display adapters: **Size: 87.49MB**

Description: Drivers for the given component, it will not remove the support for it so if you install your own driver it's safe for removal. However some manufactures drivers use parts from the bundled drivers.

Commits: I suggest removing and replacing with either the newest or at least the first working release for the video card. It isn't necessary to really have these installed especially since you will be upgrading them anyways.

- Ethernet network adapters: **Size: 11.00MB**

Description: Drivers for the given component, it will not remove the support for it so if you install your own driver it's safe for removal. However some manufactures drivers use parts from the bundled drivers. Includes Wireless

Commits: On this one, it is iffy but getting rid of it for a newer driver is most likely recommend. Some might work better than others but I've had missed results at least with my motherboard of it working 100% for everything from IM's to Websites. Suggest using newer drivers and get rid of the little 11Megs that this will take up on the HDD.

- Modems: **Size: 254.00MB**

Description: Drivers for the given component, it will not remove the support for it so if you install your own driver it's safe for removal. However some manufactures drivers use parts from the bundled drivers.

Commits: Really how many people still have modems for their PC? For faxes I can see but for a typical home user and even power users most just use e-mail anyways. Not bashing just it's a rare thing to see a modem in a PC these days that someone actually uses. If you have one probably smart to leave it on there just in case it isn't released out on the web yet.

- Printers: **Size: 841.00MB**

Description: Drivers for the given component, it will not remove the support for it so if you install your own driver it's safe for removal. However some manufactures drivers use parts from the bundled drivers.

Commits: Printers, eek, look at the size of the drivers. Man, I mean really how many printers will you have on your system? Get rid of this and just install what is needed for your computer. No need to clutter up the drive with an extra 830MB of extra drivers.

- Scanners: **Size: 15.63MB**

Description: Drivers for the given component, it will not remove the support for it so if you install your own driver it's safe for removal. However some manufactures drivers use parts from the bundled drivers.

Commits: Scanners that's iffy, it's a small amount of drivers but usually you'll want whatever software comes with the scanner as well so downloading it might be the best suggestion on this truly.

- Sound controllers: **Size: 0.66MB**

Description: Drivers for the given component, it will not remove the support for it so if you install your own driver it's safe for removal. However some manufactures drivers use parts from the bundled drivers.

Commits: With so little space really doubt it carries much driver wise. Most will have to download drivers so having this here, is more or less pointless.

Games

- Inbox Games: **Size: 106.0MB**

Description: This is the pack of games: Solitaire, Spider Solitaire, Hearts, FreeCell, Minesweeper, Purple Place

Commits: Who doesn't like a good few games?

- Premium Inbox Games: **Size: 93.0MB**

Description: This is the pack of games: Chess Titans, Mahjong Titans, Inkball

Commits: Again who doesn't like a good few games? Even more games for the bigger edition users.

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Hardware Support

- Fax Support:

Size: 23.2MB

Description: If you use Fax Machine of any kind then keep it, simple as that.

Commits: This goes back to really if you need the modem driver keep it otherwise strip it. In Home Office type applications I can see this useful but other than that it's another space saving item.

- Smartcards:

Size: 5.23MB

Description: If you use some sort of Smartcard device in your computer then don't select for the removal. This will remove Smartcard services as well.

Commits: Now I did a little research into this one. I'm scratching my head on this one. I could see it business wise, for homes, I'm having a hard time to see where this would even be used. Maybe someone can correct me on this and I'll change my opinion on it, but till then I say it is one of the used features that most people will not use.

- Windows Image Acquisition:

Size: 16.23MB

Description: **Caution!** Provides image acquisition services for scanners and cameras. If you don't use a scanner or camera with your PC you can safely remove this service.

Commits: Well can't say too much about this, if you don't have either remove it for sure. I have no idea what it would tie to the scanner or camera, but my guess this is related with windows based software and not others. I say not to touch it, it's iffy and I guess someone at some point in time could use it in one way or another.

Languages

- Japanese:

Size: 303.87MB

Description: **Caution!** Complete support for the given language, keep if you want to use any part of this language.

Commits: Self explanatory, if you use it keep it, if not why have it using HDD space.

- Korean:

Size: 222.6MB

Description: **Caution!** Complete support for the given language, keep if you want to use any part of this language.

Commits: Self explanatory, if you use it keep it, if not why have it using HDD space.

- Simplified Chinese:

Size: 421.5MB

Description: **Caution!** Complete support for the given language, keep if you want to use any part of this language.

Commits: Self explanatory, if you use it keep it, if not why have it using HDD space.

- Traditional Chinese:

Size: 435.71MB

Description: **Caution!** Complete support for the given language, keep if you want to use any part of this language.

Commits: Self explanatory, if you use it keep it, if not why have it using HDD space.

Multimedia

- Media Center:

Size: 636.62MB

Description: Live and recorded TV, movies, music, and pictures-in one place with easy-to-use Windows Media Center menu system and remote control.

Commits: Well if you use Media Center functions by all means keep it, but if not, it's just sitting HDD space and time to install it. If I wanted a media center I'd keep it on but even then I'd make a separate system for that.

- Movie and DVD Maker:

Size: 233.35MB

Description: Quickly and easily import, edit, and organize all of your digital home videos. Once your movies are just the way you want them, you can easily burn them to DVD or share them with others through the Internet.

Commits: I guess you can say this semi tied to the Media Center. If you use one it is possible that you can use this one as well. The program itself is relatively easy to use so anyone looking for easy way to make a movie DVD and such I'd try it out, heck its free with the proper version of Vista so why not. Otherwise uninstall as well too.

- Screensavers:

Size: 68.7MB

Description: Aurora, Bubbles, Mystify, Ribbons, Windows Logo, 3D Text, Windows Energy, all except Blank screen.

Commits: I say leave this but that's me. Anyone not interested in any screen savers or just MS's screen savers its some space to be saved, not a lot but hey every bit counts especially on the smaller hard drives.

- Shell event sounds:

Size: 10.15MB

Description: Sounds which occur on certain actions like maximizing windows, starting Windows.

Commits: Well it's the default sound, who doesn't like sounds unless it's an error message. Anyways its self explanatory, if you have replacement sounds sure scrap them otherwise keep them on the disk.

- SlideShow:

Size: 7.97MB

Description: Windows Vista SideShow technology enables laptop manufactures to include a secondary or auxiliary display in future laptop designs.

Commits: As said it's more or less a laptop feature, and even then more or less newer laptops. The feature is quiet cool though so if you do get a laptop with a secondary display (shown on the outside of the laptops monitor) you can check battery life, hard drive space, play music, and a load of other little functions.

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- Speech Support:

Size: 687.25MB

Description: Lets you interact with your computer using your voice. You can dictate documents and e-mails in commonly used programs, and use voice commands to start and switch between applications, control the operating system, and even fill out forms on the web.

Commits: If you use speech to help type a document or control application, this is where it's at. I personally haven't used it but heard many good things about this one. Besides you don't have to pay a chunk of change to do it now with third-party software. Me it's more of a toy then anything.

- Tablet PC:

Size: 814.5MB

Description: You can use the pen directly on the screen just as you would a mouse to do things like select, drag, and open files; or in place of a keyboard to handwrite notes and communication. Unlike a touch screen, the Tablet PC screen only receives information from a special pen. Needed for Ink Ball game.

Commits: Another self explanatory one, if you have a Tablet PC then use it otherwise right out the door and save the hard drive space.

- Wallpapers:

Size: 91.9MB

Description: **Caution!** Bundled wallpapers. Warning! At the first logon when you get the computer name window, which is the part of OOBE, don't click on the invisible boxes below where the wallpapers should have been or it will crash. It will restart and all fine again but still better not to click it.

Commits: You can remove this. Just follow the description above to make sure you don't crash. I personally am leaving this on, but if eventually we can actually add our own backgrounds to the install that would be perfect and probably eliminate a few Megs in this category.

- Windows Aero Theme:

Size: 3.6MB

Description: This will remove the default Windows Vista theme, the Windows Aero. It will remove Glass and normal version because it is one and the same. Glass effect functionality, or any other feature generally associated with this theme will not be removed so you will be able to use it with other themes when available. Also a user reported that Aero theme is actually faster than Standard.

Commits: It is the theme, the one so talked about for Vista. Great thing about this it uses no CPU power or really any GPU power for that matter. But benefit to this over your classic theme is that when you drag a window around the screen or such it doesn't use CPU power like XP and such did. It uses none, which keeps the CPU from using power and is more energy efficient in that respect as well as GPU power.

- Windows Calendar:

Size: 4.7MB

Description: A flexible, easy-to-use calendar. It lets you plan and manage all of your activities and coordinate your schedule with others. Windows Calendar also lets you create a personal task list and receive automatic notifications and reminders about specific tasks and upcoming appointments.

Commits: This is basically outlooks calendar and scheduler just without outlook. If you need it great, if not it can still be useful but it takes so little space its one of those questionable things.

- Windows Media Samples:

Size: 143.04MB

Description: Some Music and Video samples, nothing special.

Commits: Media samples for Media Center. Its takes a bit of space, and really might be useful if you're making your own to see how they have the samples setup but otherwise that's a few megs you can save for something else.

- Windows Photo Gallery:

Size: 45.47MB

Description: Gives you the tools you need to easily organize, find, and view your photos and videos. You can edit, print, and share your photos from within Windows Photo Gallery, as well transfer photos from your camera to your computer with a simple import process.

Commits: Up in the air about this since I can't find really a distinct difference between Photo Gallery and Photo Viewer, but Photo Gallery is basically the image viewer seen in XP just with a face lift and cleaner interface. There are other features with this like creating your own picture screen saver view viewing, slide shows and etc. I think this might be tied with Photo Viewer.

- Windows Photo Viewer:

Size: 20.37MB

Description: Default Windows picture viewer.

Commits: Basic photo viewer from windows, but might be linked to some of the Photo Galleries items. For me this doesn't default to open pictures, Photo Gallery opens first so it might be a module of that.

- Windows Sidebar and Gadgets:

Size: 28.13MB

Description: Mini-applications that put information and tasks on your desktop.

Commits: The sidebar, really it's a nice tool for showing information about the system without having anything else open. I personally can't wait to see what else is made for the Gadgets, and maybe someday I can make my own.

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Network

- Connect to a Network Projector: Size: 2.6MB

Description: Allows projecting to a network projector.
Commits: Need network projector sure leave it, otherwise, out the door.

- Internet Information Services: Size: 41.6MB

Description: Internet Information Services (IIS) is a Web server; if you host a web site or you need it for some college related tasks leave it.
Commits: Guess you can say this is an iffy one to get rid of if you deal with web servers. Most of us don't have the bandwidth at home to run a website off our connection let alone a service that will allow us to do that. So it's safe to say you can probably get rid of it that way. For college classes, it's a 50/50 shot if you need it or don't, depend on the courses you take.

- Remote Desktop and Assistance: Size: 14.34MB

Description: Enables you to connect to your computer across the Internet from virtually any computer, Pocket PC, or Smartphone. Once connected, Remote Desktop gives you mouse and keyboard control over your computer while showing you everything that's happening on the screen.
Commits: If you help people over the web or people to help you (then again if you're doing this I'm pretty sure you don't need it for that reason. Otherwise make sure this is turned off. I see this more of a security risk than anything.

- Windows Collaboration: Size: 15.95MB

Description: Peer To Peer, infrastructure to support server less presence, app invite, contacts and people near me. This will not affect your other popular P2P programs, it is for Microsoft products only.
Commits: Its interface sounds cool but most people use their own IM services to chat or contact people to ask for gaming seasons and video and such. It can also show off the person's desktop, which acts like a Remote Desktop feature. This would be great at work environment.

- Windows Communication Foundation: Size: 82.2MB

Description: **Caution!** Formerly code-named 'Indigo', is a set of .NET3 technologies for building and running connected systems. It is a new breed of communications infrastructure built around the Web services architecture. Removes CardSpace service, which provides a solution for working with and managing diverse digital identities.
Commits: This just has a lot of features. CardSpace was a rather cool thing I learned about where it can keep information and if sites start using it, it's a secure way to transmit your credit card information (which comes from the bank not you) and address and other personal information. Say you're buying something from Newegg for the first time, if Newegg supported this you could have all your information preloaded on the PC and with a click it's on the order form, and no need to store your personal information on the site. IMO a nice feature and looking forward to seeing it implemented, BTW it's not just Microsoft that's moving forward with this either.

- Windows Mail: Size: 67.07MB

Description: Windows built-in e-mail client known before as Outlook Express. Needed for: People Near Me (in the Control Panel), Office Outlook, Some reported character corruption in Windows Live Messenger if this is removed (not confirmed)
Commits: If you plan on using Outlook or MSN (aka WLM) then leave it. MSN is a pretty common tool so hopefully if they fix or at least confirm the character corruption is false I could see this being removed for most as well.

Services

- Error Reporting: Size: 8.0MB

Description: Enables you to send error reports to Microsoft in order for them to prioritize fixes.
Commits: This service is one of the few things I believe that shouldn't be touched. It's great for finding errors that are going on with the system.

- Microsoft DFS Replication: Size: 7.72MB

Description: The Distributed File System (DFS) technologies offer wide area network (WAN)-friendly replication as well as simplified, fault-tolerant access to geographically dispersed files.
Commits: I see this more used for the work type environment with a large network. For home use I don't see it practical at all or what type of instances unless you're running some sort of server farm in your basement.

- Offline Files: Size: 6.1MB

Description: By using Offline Files, you can manage user data more efficiently while enhancing user's access to their files and folders while not connected to the network.
Commits: If you don't have network server storage get rid. More or less another business option included with Vista.

- Remote Registry: Size: 0.42MB

Description: Using Remote Registry Services, administrators can change registry entries on other computers over the network.
Commits: To me this has security issue written all over it. The service is enabled by default just like XP. If you help others using the remote desktop assistant they yes keep it, but otherwise just another thing to add to the bin.

- Secondary Logon: Size: 0.19MB

Description: Enables starting processes under alternate credentials. The 'Run As...' command which appears on the context menu, allowing a Limited User to run an executable as a higher level user. But the 'Run As Administrator' command will work even if this is removed.
Commits: Its small and the service can be easily disabled unless you know you're the only one that uses the computer. I say in your typical household you'll have 2 if not more people using the computer. I say leave on and just disable the service for those cases when you need it.

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- Task Scheduler:

Size: 10.5MB

Description: The Task Scheduler enables you to automatically perform routine tasks on a chosen computer. The Task Scheduler does this by monitoring whatever criteria you choose to initiate the tasks (referred to as triggers) and then executing the tasks when the criteria is met. Needed for Windows Disk Defragmenter.

Commits: It's tied to a few things, update software and such. In XP it was suggested to be disabled not sure if this is the case with Vista but probably the same thing could be done. If you keep on of updates, ditch it, otherwise keep it.

- Volume Shadow Copy:

Size: 11.11MB

Description: The Volume Shadow Copy Service provides the backup infrastructure, as well as a mechanism for creating consistent point-in-time copies of data known as shadow copies.

Commits: Its one of those services that if you don't do backup get rid of. My suggestion is to keep it. At least with Ultimate you have the backup software that comes with it needs this to function. Never know when you want a backup and who really wants to do a backup in DOS and have the computer out of action while its doing it? I sure don't.

- Windows Remote Management:

Size: 10.16MB

Description: The Windows Remote Management (WinRM) is the Microsoft implementation of WS-Management Protocol, a standard SOAP-based, firewall-friendly protocol that allows hardware and operating systems, from different vendors, to interoperate. The WS-Management protocol specification provides a common way for systems to access and exchanges management information across an IT infrastructure.

Commits: Another business infrastructure tool, and isn't needed for your typical or even untypical home environment.

- Windows Search:

Size: 6.85MB

Description: This will remove the part of Windows Search, the service which indexes files in the background. With this removed your searching amongst large number of files may be slower but in general this component takes a lot of resources.

Commits: While it might be a resource hog, it does make for some very quick searches which can be very nice, although when looking to free some ram space up disabling it comes in handy. I'm mixed up on this one, it can be handy for those that want the quick file searches but it can become a system hindrance with resources (it doesn't use much CPU cycles though). I like it but I think I can live without it just as well since it's a rarity that I do searches. If you search do a lot of searches I'd recommend keeping it.

System

- Accessibility:

Size: 25.11MB

Description: Use the Accessibility Wizard and tools to configure your system to meet your vision, hearing, and mobility needs.

Commits: As said I've played with these features here and there, but really not useful to at least to majority of users.

- BitLocker Drive Encryption:

Size: 6.07MB

Description: BitLocker prevents a thief who boots another operating system or runs a software hacking tool from breaking Windows Vista file and system protections or performing offline viewing of the files that are stored on the protected drive.

Commits: If you like things secure do it otherwise it's not doing anything to help you.

- Component Cache:

Size: 2,000.00MB

Description: **Caution!** This will remove the backup files of the installed components as well as the files for the components which are not yet installed. ISO size will not be reduced by much because of the image double file optimizations. This will remove the Control panel – Programs – Turn On or Off Windows Features so if you use that to add some component after install don't remove this. Warning! This breaks hot fix installations too, gonna work on it to see if it's possible to bypass that.

Commits: Don't recommend turning this off. As said it can be used for installing components after installation. Weather that means what you only installed or what you are installing I don't know, there isn't much information on this. But as said in the vLite description for 0.9 that its needed for any hot fixes.

- Disk Defragmenter:

Size: 5.0MB

Description: Built-in disk defragmenter.

Commits: If you have a secondary disk defragmenter tool (AKA Diskeeper) no need to have this installed. Personally, there are much better hard drive defragmenters out there than this.

- Help:

Size: 202.74MB

Description: Help documentation for Windows in general and the components.

Commits: While it's once in a blue moon that I personally use this feature it is nice sometimes trying to figure out problems. I'd keep it and just disable the service so at least you won't hit F1 have it pop up. If it disables all help activities then you might consider keeping it as well if you use any help features in other programs. If you feel like you don't use it at all then by all means remove it.

- Microsoft Agent:

Size: 8.12MB

Description: Despite the 'government-like' title it's actually a software technology that enables an enriched form of user interaction that can make using and learning to use a computer, easier and more natural. Like Wizard in the Office.

Commits: Ah, wizard, well if we are doing this, I doubt we'd need to learn how to use a computer.

- Natural Language:

Size: 596.58MB

Description: Used for extra functionalities in speech and search. Basically it provides the ability to use Speech and Search more naturally, almost like addressing another person.

Commits: It's a simpler way to do more complex searches. As for speech I'm not 100% sure what this adds but if you have the speech module installed you might consider keeping this as well to complement it.

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- Parental Controls:

Size: 11.23MB

Description: Monitoring and managing your children's computer privileges.
Commits: With this if you don't have kids you really don't need it. Well unless you want to play some joke on someone that uses your machine and lock them out from everything. It also tracks what they are doing so it's nice monitoring software if you want to see what someone is doing on your computer as well. Not really practical for just one person.

- ReadyBoost:

Size: 0.78MB

Description: Extends the disk caching capabilities of Windows Vista main memory. ReadyBoost-capable devices can be implemented as USB 2.0 flash drives, Secure Digital (SD) cards, or CompactFlash cards. Using ReadyBoost-capable flash memory devices for caching allows Windows Vista to service random disk reads with performance that is typically 8-10 times faster than random reads from traditional hard drives.
Commits: If you have low amount of ram then keep this. With higher ram capacity at least currently it won't show any improvement. I wouldn't recommend for 4Gigs and up and with 2Gigs it would be a toss up I'd use it.

- Security Center:

Size: 8.31MB

Description: Windows Security Center indicates whether key security capabilities are turned on and up-to-date. Windows Security Center notifies you if updates are required or if you must take additional steps to help make your computer secure.
Commits: This feature is innocuous if you don't have all its recommended security features installed. Its nice to see what is running but really that's about as much usefulness that I've gotten out of it. I disable it all the time so this goes on the chopping block as well.

- SuperFetch:

Size: 2.62MB

Description: Windows SuperFetch memory management technology intelligently maintains optimal memory content based on historic usage patterns on the Windows-based PC, allowing Windows Vista to make intelligent decisions about what content should be present in system memory at any given time.
Commits: This is one of the best features Vista offers. Yes it uses memory up but then again if you have it use it. If not and don't mind waiting for some things to load then turning it off will save some ram space for you.

- Sync Center:

Size: 12.23MB

Description: Sync Center gives you one place where you can manage data synchronization in several scenarios: between multiple PCs, between network servers and PCs, and with the devices you connect to your PC. It contains Briefcase too.
Commits: If you keep data in a secondary spot and have this setup it is nice for backup reasons. Also files shared between 2 or more computers is exactly the same. If you don't use it get rid of it. It's one of the rarer features I've actually seen used in windows, but can be very useful.

- System Restore:

Size: 3.61MB

Description: System Restore's purpose is to return your system to a workable state without requiring a complete reinstallation and without compromising your data files. The utility runs in the background and automatically creates a restore point when a trigger event occurs. Trigger events include application installations, AutoUpdate installations; Microsoft Backup Utility recoveries, unsigned-driver installations, and manual creations of restore points. The utility also creates restore points once a day by default.
Commits: This feature can be a god send for people. If the computer acts up one day and programs stop working recovering it from the previous day (at least critical files) it's great. It is a big hard drive space eater but if someone wants a little added security for issues that arise this is it. I recommended it on for that reason alone, if you can't backup this is nearly the second best thing if something gets courted. As well this is defiantly more advanced then XP's System Restore and will create restore points daily.

- Welcome Center:

Size: 9.37MB

Description: Small application used to introduce you to the new features of the operating system. Once you saw it, it gets annoying if you reinstall a lot.
Commits: Might be semi nice on first start up of Vista, it does bring out a bit of features 1 click away but other then that, you'll get sick of it and turn it off.

- Windows Backup:

Size: 11.94MB

Description: Backup tool which includes System restore enhancements and a related feature: Previous Versions, based on the Volume Shadow Copy technology. Also removes Windows Backup and Restore Center.
Commits: Great backup tool for Vista, its quick and effective for recovery within windows and dos as well. It's missing some nice little features like selecting what you want to back up on a per drive basis but otherwise it's a good tool. Makes for quick backup and restores which I'm amazed by.

- Windows Defender:

Size: 21.67MB

Description: Helps protect your computer against pop-ups, slow performance, and security threats caused by spyware and other unwanted software. It features Real-Time Protection, a monitoring system that recommends actions against spyware when it's detected. Note: The Shortcut 'Manage Startup Programs' in Performance information page won't work, use 'msconfig' instead.
Commits: Nice tool, and does a good job keeping the bugs out of the system. I like it and say it's a worthy keep to the system.

- Windows Easy Transfer:

Size: 106.1MB

Description: **Caution!** Windows Easy Transfer is a quick and easy way for users to transfer their files and settings from their old computers running earlier versions of Microsoft Windows to their new computers running Windows Vista. Needed for the Windows Upgrade feature.
Commits: As said if you have the upgrade pack you might want to consider keeping this. If not remove.

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- Windows SAT:

Size: 76.25MB

Description: **Caution!** Windows System Assessment Tool is a basic benchmark in order to set the visual and system settings appropriate to your machine's speed. However if you don't care about such functionality and want to skip that last part of the install where it checks the speed then you can select this for removal. Important note: if you normally get Glass Effect enabled, after this check is skipped you'll have to enable the tweak to Force Glass Effect.

Commits: If you like looking at the numbers that Vista pulls up keep it. If you want glass effects you can select it later on in the setup, as well saves you a bit on the first boot time when it finds to see if you can run the fancy desktop. It's a disk saver, and time saver by removing it, it's not needed.

- XPS Document Writer:

Size: 13.0MB

Description: The XPS Document Writer allows you to create .xps files using any program that you run on Windows. XPS documents look the same in print as they do on the screen. They are portable, like any other file that you can e-mail or transfer using a CD, DVD, universal serial bus (USB) drive, or network connection.

Commits: This is like a document print tool/doc viewer. Hard to explain it easily but if you have Office I really don't see any need for this at all. If you have other word type apps you might want to consider keeping it to view files.

- XPS Viewer:

Size: 0.81MB

Description: You can view XPS documents only by using the XPS viewer. The viewer works with Internet Explorer. When you open an XPS document, the viewer automatically opens the document in an Internet explorer window.

Commits: Views XPS Docs, self explanatory, so if you really need it keep it.

- Zip Folder:

Size: 1.63MB

Description: Shows ZIP files like folders in Explorer.

Commits: While this is a nice tool, if you use WinRAR or WinACE, it basically neglects this as most likely you'll just continue to use one of the other programs.

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Tweaks

Under this section there are only minor tweaks that can be done currently during the installation process. I'm just going to mention what is under this section currently and I'll add commits to the section at a later date when more options become available.

Display

- Force Glass Effect

Description: This will force the Glass Effect to be enabled on the compatible hardware only. You may need to select the Aero Glass style after installation.

- Substitute common fonts with Segoe UI

Description: This will set the new Segoe UI font to be used throughout the Windows interface thus using it's clear-type optimizations for readable anti-aliased characters.

Security

- Disable Anti-Spyware Real-time Protection

Description: Disables Anti-Spyware (Windows Defender)

Commits: I recommend this on. It's not a CPU hog, nor a resource one at that. It keeps up to date and as well it's free to use. Unless you use another program I truly recommend using it.

- User Account Control (UAC)

Description: UAC enables users to perform common tasks as non-administrators, called standard users in Windows Vista, if you are annoyed by the constant popups disable it.

Commits: Suggested to disable since it will interfere with a lot of programs right away from opening, saving files and other anomalies. I highly recommend turning it off till some of the minor quirks or they upgrade it a bit where it will remember it's safe to open certain programs without asking about it.

System

- Hibernation

Description: Hibernation File

Commits: If you like hibernation of the computer so when you power back up its right back into windows its good for that. Large ram users (2Gig +) the benefit of doing so is almost negligible, due to the amount of information it has to drop to the hard drive and read back to load up.

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Drivers

This section is self explanatory. You can add drivers to the installation. Examples would be your network/lan/sound/mobo/raid. Basically anything that needs a driver in Vista can be nearly loaded off this. If it's a program then well I'm sure at some time there will be support added for stream lining installation of programs as well (sound card and video card is a prime example of this). Till then not much to say in this section except for play around and check it out.

Trouble Shooting

This section is for any issues that pop up and workarounds to get vLite to function properly.

XP & vLite

Issue: Getting BSOD's when running vLite with antivirus software
Solution: Remove any antivirus and then uninstalling vLite. Reboot and install vLite again, this should solve the issue.
Found By: **Xtreme Barton (OCForums)**

Conclusion

To wrap this up here hopefully this guide helped you into choosing what to keep and what to get rid of on your next install of Vista. With that said as well these recommendations as I mentioned before are coming from a Home Office/Gamer on the system. With this you can at least rest easier about the installation space or features that you don't use isn't wasting precious disk space on some of those smaller drives or partitions. Not only that but as well ram usage for the ones out there that have a limited about of ram but still want to run Vista smoothly without the extra things running in the background by default.

On that note, as newer versions of vLite come out I plan on updating this guide to keep up to date with the changes. Till then enjoy, and any commits or suggestions will be greatly appreciated since this is my first time doing something like this.