Hardware Testing Software

MemTest86
My review of MemTest86, a free memory testing (RAM test) software program.
MemTest86 is simply the best free memory test program available today. MemTest86 is very easy to use and equally thorough. It's also one of the few diagnostic tools of any kind that's equally valuable to both novices and professionals alike.
A short memory test is often completed by the BIOS during the POST, but that test is not at all thorough. A complete memory test by an excellent program like MemTest86 is necessary to truly determine if your computer's RAM is working properly.
If you test your memory with only one memory testing program, make MemTest86 that program without a doubt. Download MemTest86 v5.1.0

Windows Memory Diagnostic
My review of Windows Memory Diagnostic, a free memory testing (RAM test) software program.
Windows Memory Diagnostic is an excellent free memory test program. Windows Memory Diagnostic is a comprehensive memory test but is also very easy to use.
The BIOS in your computer will test your memory during the POST but it's an extremely basic test. To truly determine if your RAM is not working properly, you must perform an extensive memory test by a program like Windows Memory Diagnostic.
I recommend that you first test your memory with Memtest86 but you should always test a second time with a different memory testing tool just to be sure. Windows Memory Diagnostic should be that second tool. Download Windows Memory Diagnostic

Seagate SeaTools
Seagate's hard drive testing programs, SeaTools for DOS and SeaTools for Windows, are both great, though one is better for certain hard drive problems. Here's more on both of their tools. Seagate creates two free hard drive testing software programs - SeaTools for DOS and SeaTools for Windows. While

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both testing tools are excellent, they are different. SeaTools for DOS is more powerful but is a bit more difficult to use. SeaTools for Windows isn't as full featured but it's much easier to install.
Both programs are completely free and I highly recommend them. If you suspect that your hard drive may be failing, one or both of these tools from Seagate will help you determine what's wrong.
Important: You may need to replace the hard drive if it fails any of your tests.
Download SeaTools (for DOS or Windows)

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