



PC Technician's Troubleshooting Pocket Reference (Hardware S)

By Stephen Bigelow

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

I don't know where the folks at Osborne buy their clothes, but on my planet a pocket is only slightly larger than a hand. I can put my wallet in my pocket. I can carry three or so Zip disks. But I've tried and tried, and I just can't jam in all 600+ pages of *Bigelow's PC Technician's Troubleshooting Pocket Reference* into any pocket I have. The thing is an inch and a half thick--definitely not pocket-sized. It's satchel-sized. It's put-it-under-the-tire-to-keep-the-trailer-from-rolling-downhill-sized.

Form factors aside, Bigelow's book lives up to its title; it's all troubleshooting information. Wonderful! This book assuredly was not meant to be read front to back. It works like this: start with a problem, and then look up the solution. Bigelow divided the book into sections for various parts of the PC or devices that are connected to it. You look up the device, read about it, heed some general maintenance wisdom, and then peruse the various "symptoms" and cures. Very nice, and just about the best information on troubleshooting that I've seen.

There are two problems. The first (again) is the book's size. Simply put, it's *not* a pocket-sized book. Osborne should forget that aspect, and publish the book in a size that easily lies flat. Trust me, the information is valuable enough to sell the book; don't get cute with the size. The second is that I'd like to see the symptoms summarized before they're presented. That would make finding specific information easier, and I wouldn't have to thumb through several dozen symptoms/solutions before finding what I want.

On the key subject of disk partitioning, this book fits the bill--but only in troubleshooting partitioning problems. On that subject, Bigelow does a fine job, and even suggests third-party solutions. In fact, the book does contain many third-party solutions, as well as advice on what to do in Windows for troubleshooting.

This book is not for everyone. Most of the introduction is aimed at computer technicians or troubleshooting professionals. But at \$19.99 it's a good investment. At the very least, it'll make you the hero on your block, when it comes to troubleshooting PCs. --*Dan Gookin*

From the Back Cover

A quick reference for on-the-job PC repair and maintenance!

Get essential PC troubleshooting and diagnostic information from this handy pocket reference. Packed with code tables, commands, symptom summaries, solutions, and other key details, this easy-access guide gives you just the facts you need - at your fingertips. Slip it into your toolbox and take advantage of the concise advice, tables, and charts inside. The book covers virtually every major PC component, including drives, input devices, modems, motherboards, and peripherals. Diagnose - and fix - PC problems on the job with help from this easy-to-use pocket guide.

- Prepare a PC for service - manage static, check power, inspect cooling devices, scan for viruses, and more
- Troubleshoot floppy drives, hard drives, and CD-ROM/CDR/CD-RW drives
- Manage input devices, including keyboards, mice, and joysticks
- Diagnose motherboard problems, such as beep codes, POST codes, and CMOS setup/battery issues
- Troubleshoot video systems
- Install and maintain peripherals

About the Author

Stephen J. Bigelow (Jefferson, MA) is a recognized and trusted figure in the crowded field on computer guidance. Online and in print, this expert author has earned a reputation for straightforward, reliable advice.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dale Perez:

The book PC Technician's Troubleshooting Pocket Reference (Hardware S) gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You may use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting tension or having big problem with the subject. If you can make examining a book PC Technician's Troubleshooting Pocket Reference (Hardware S) being your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You could know everything if you like start and read a book PC Technician's Troubleshooting Pocket Reference (Hardware S). Kinds of book are several. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other individuals. So , how do you think about this guide?

Jill White:

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Corinne Parsons:

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Pearlie Wong:

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