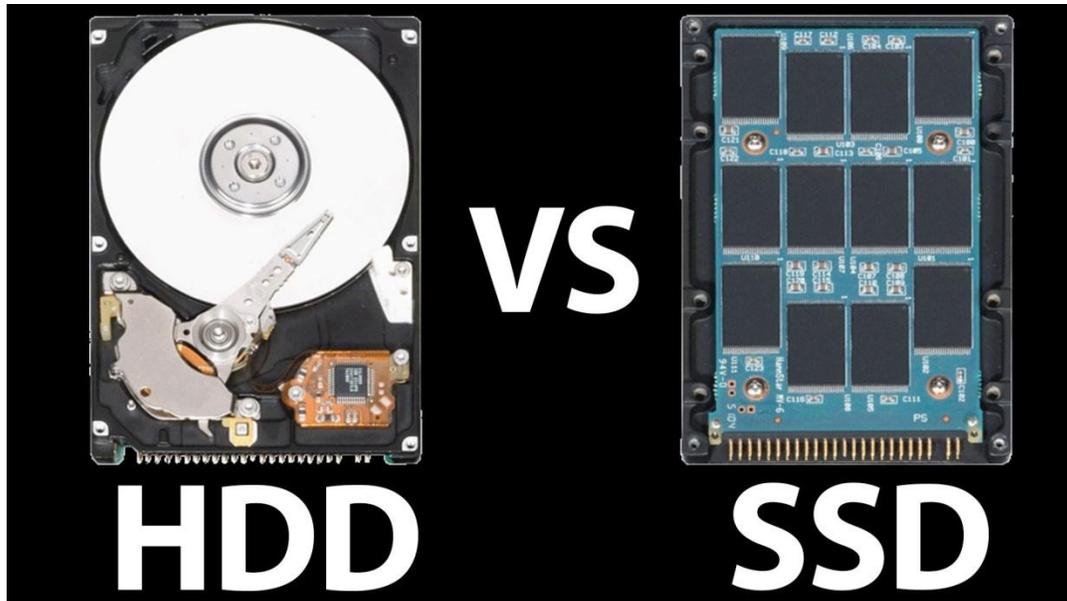


NEW YEAR, NEW LIFE FOR YOUR COMPUTER!



Many people begin the New Year with renewed vigor and early Spring cleaning... that includes computer(s). If you own an older PC and want to keep it in spite of its sluggishness or want to wait a while for the currently problematic Windows 10, there is a great alternative: **SSD = solid state drive**.

HDDs (hard drives) and **SSDs** are data storage devices that live in every computer; HDDs have been around for years and both types serve the same purposes: read, write and store data. What differs is how: HDDs use magnetic discs and mechanical arms; SSDs use motionless technology called NAND “flash” memory – perhaps you can identify it with the “flash” memory of USB sticks. The end result is a more efficient way to store information without mechanical parts that wear out. SSDs generate less heat than HDDs thus reducing the amount of power your PC device draws. HDDs as you currently own have a 3-6 yr. life, crash and fail.

Prices for SSDs have come down considerably since first introduced and though there is a cost involved, the upside is that you will have a faster, more efficient, longer-lasting and more durable data storage device that technically will not fail...

many people have lost irreplaceable photos, documents through a failed HDD. The choice depends on your own needs and current equipment. Evolving technologies will naturally bring costs down and storage capacities up.

An alternative is a **hybrid drive**, i.e. a combination of both SSD and HDD. These are HDDs with an extra cache of SSD NAND memory. Here the SSD learns which files you use most often and writes them quickly while all other files are stored on the HDD. **Dual drive** is another way: SSD and HDD are used as separate drives where you control where you save files and install programs, this drive costs more than either HDD or SSD.

At a fraction of the cost of buying a new PC, an **SSD** will give your PC new life by making it 10x faster, boot in 3-10 seconds, run quietly, is longer-lasting, uses less energy making it more efficient while retaining your current operating system. Before ditching your old but much-loved PC consider all options – the best being replacing your HDD with an SSD.