

Optimizing QuickBooks Performance

Make sure hardware meets or exceeds minimum requirements

The right hardware will get the most out of QuickBooks:

[System Requirements for QuickBooks 2007](#)

[System Requirements for QuickBooks 2006](#)

[System Requirements for QuickBooks 2005](#)

Always use QuickBooks in Recommended Mode

Proper network setup is essential for optimal QuickBooks performance: [Information on proper mode setup](#).

Optimize network performance

Use a 100 Mbps hard-wired network. Avoid wireless network solutions (due to possible connection breakages). Avoid external hard drives when possible. Use a fast disk on the server. The faster the disk, the better QuickBooks will perform (7200-10000 rpm is good.)

Configure anti-virus software properly

An anti-virus utility running a real time scanning engine can cause QuickBooks to operate at a slower speed. You can improve performance by disabling real-time scanning: [More information on anti-virus software](#).

Configure firewalls so they will not interfere with QuickBooks

Use this link for information on how to configure the following common firewall programs and more: [Norton, McAfee, Trend Micro, Zone Alarm, Microsoft Windows](#).

Run anti-spyware software

Spyware can create significant unwanted CPU activity, disk usage, and network traffic –slowing down legitimate use of system resources by QuickBooks.

Defragment your hard drive regularly

This keeps hard drive access as fast as possible.

Disable all desktop search and indexing applications

These might include programs such as: Google Desktop, Copernic, Microsoft Indexing Service, etc. At a minimum, disable them when working with QuickBooks

Reduce the number of reminders and memorized transactions

This will improve program start-up time.

Uninstall previous versions of QuickBooks:

This will also improve program start-up time.

Turn off Automatic Update

Update QuickBooks manually to reduce the load on your system processor. In QuickBooks, go to the *Help* menu → select *Update QuickBooks* → click the *Options* tab → set *Automatic Update* to *No*.

Periodically clean up your company file

This feature, formerly called Archive and Condense, removes obsolete list entries and transactions. In QuickBooks, select the **File** menu then select **Utilities > Clean Up Company Data**.

Use the appropriate QuickBooks product for the size of your company file

For company files larger than 150 MB, consider using QuickBooks Enterprise.