



Dear Diane,

I took a screen shot of my tool bars and I was wondering if this could possibly be a problem.

### Filled up in Fond du Lac

Dear Filled up,

I realize this is a joke. No one could possibly have that many extra tool bars installed. Actually you bring up a very good point. What happens to my computer when I install toolbars? Some of them seem to be pretty cool and why shouldn't I do that?

Here are some problems or potential problems with installing toolbars. At best, they slow down your computer because they are actively installing applications in the background; and then each new item uses your resources. At worst they install malware that could infect your computer and really slow it down. I hear users complain about how slowly their computers are running frequently, and this may be one reason why.

Some specific problematic tool bars are **Coupon Bar**, **Daily Deals**, **My Web Search**, and **SearchQ** because they actually add malware. **Yahoo** may have conflicts with our Firewall that would stop you from getting to the internet. **Bing** uses up 60 MB of memory to run its various processes. What does this mean? Well a common amount of RAM is 500 MB. If installed, you have just given up 12 % of your memory to Bing. Is that really what you want to do?

The bottom line is that you don't need any toolbar to do your job and you are giving up resources to have these running so ...**Don't install toolbars.**