

Setting A Restore Point To Bring Your Computer Back To It's Previously Working State

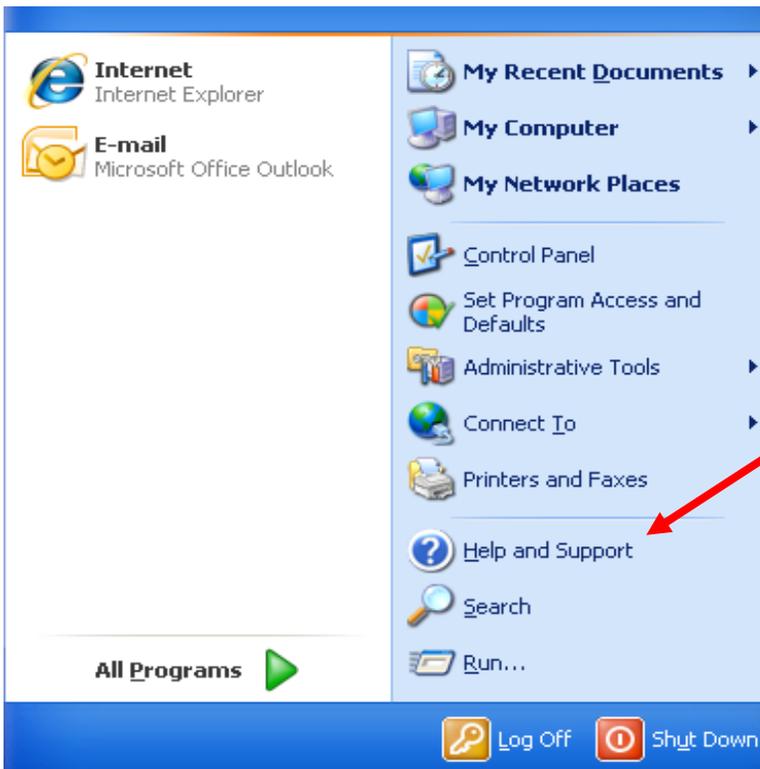
Whenever you are about to install new software on your computer, it is wise to create what is called a “restore point.” If something goes wrong anytime after that new software installation, you can bring your computer back to the exact way it was before you installed (or tried to install) that new software. Occasionally software we install (whether it is free from the internet, given to us from a well-meaning relative or even purchased) will totally ruin our computer. We can lose internet connections and other software no longer works. When this happens, we could be without computer functionality for days, weeks or even months and even have to have our hard drive (and ALL of the data on it) reformatted (erased) and our software reinstalled. You know this would be a global-thermonuclear hassle.

So be wise and create a “restore point” before you change anything on your computer. Here is how to do it (if you are using the Microsoft XP or XP Professional operating system).

To create a “restore point”

Click on Start

Choose Help & Support



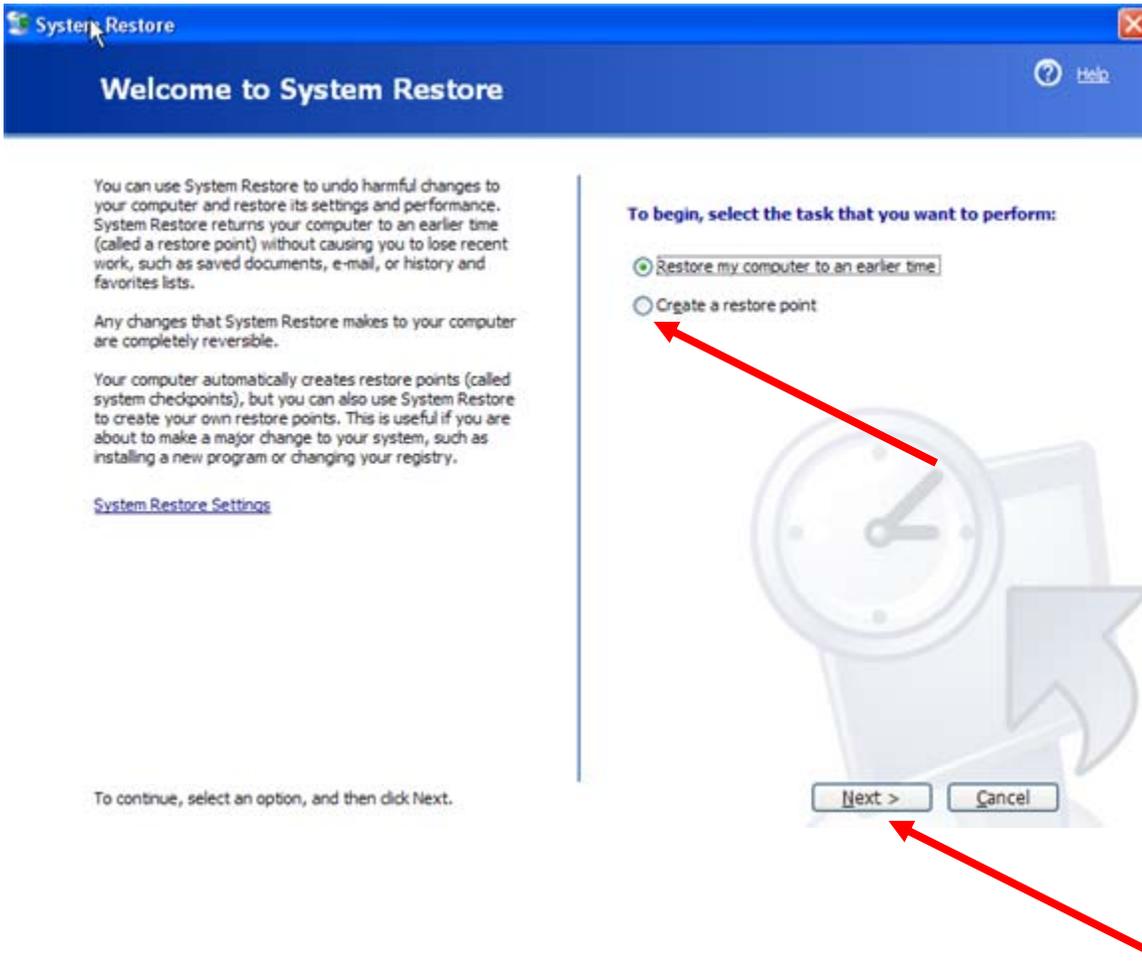
Pick “Undo changes to your computer with System Restore”

The screenshot shows the Windows XP Help and Support Center interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "Help and Support Center" and a search bar. Below the header, there are navigation icons for Back, Home, Index, Favorites, History, Support, and Options. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Pick a Help topic:** This section contains four categories of help topics, each with a list of sub-topics:
 - Category 1: What's new in Windows XP, Music, videos, games, and photos, Windows basics, Protecting your PC: security basics.
 - Category 2: Networking and the Web, Working remotely, System administration.
 - Category 3: Customizing your computer, Accessibility.
 - Category 4: Printing and faxing, Performance and maintenance, Hardware, Fixing a problem, Send your feedback to Microsoft.
- Ask for assistance:** This section contains three links:
 - Invite a friend to connect to your computer with Remote Assistance.
 - Get support, or find information in Windows XP newsgroups.
- Pick a task:** This section contains four links:
 - Keep your computer up-to-date with Windows Update.
 - Find compatible hardware and software for Windows XP.
 - Undo changes to your computer with System Restore** (highlighted with a red arrow).
 - Use Tools to view your computer information and diagnose problems.
- Did you know?:** This section contains a paragraph of text: "When you are connected to the Internet, this area will display links to timely information. If you want to connect to the Internet now, start The New Connection Wizard. For more information, see how to establish a Web connection through an Internet service provider."

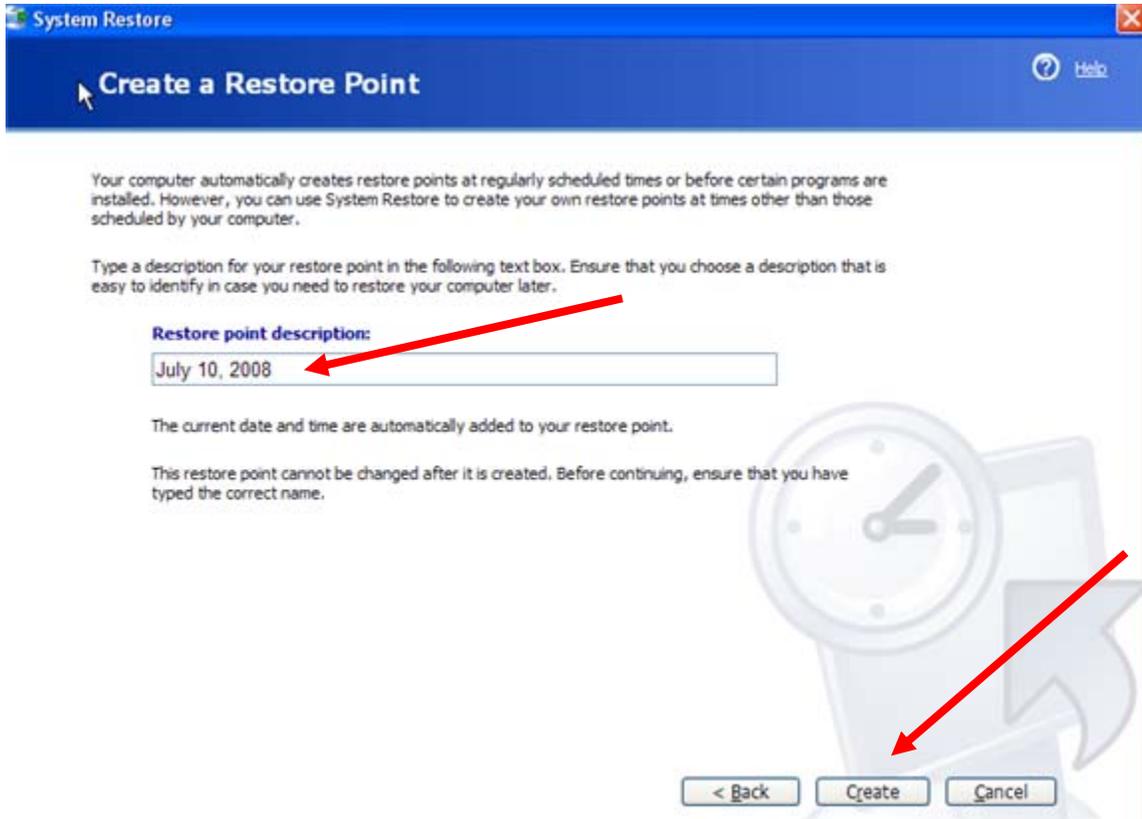
You will see this screen.

From here, to create a new “restore point” click on (to activate) the radio button next to “Create a restore point and then click on the “Next” button at the bottom.

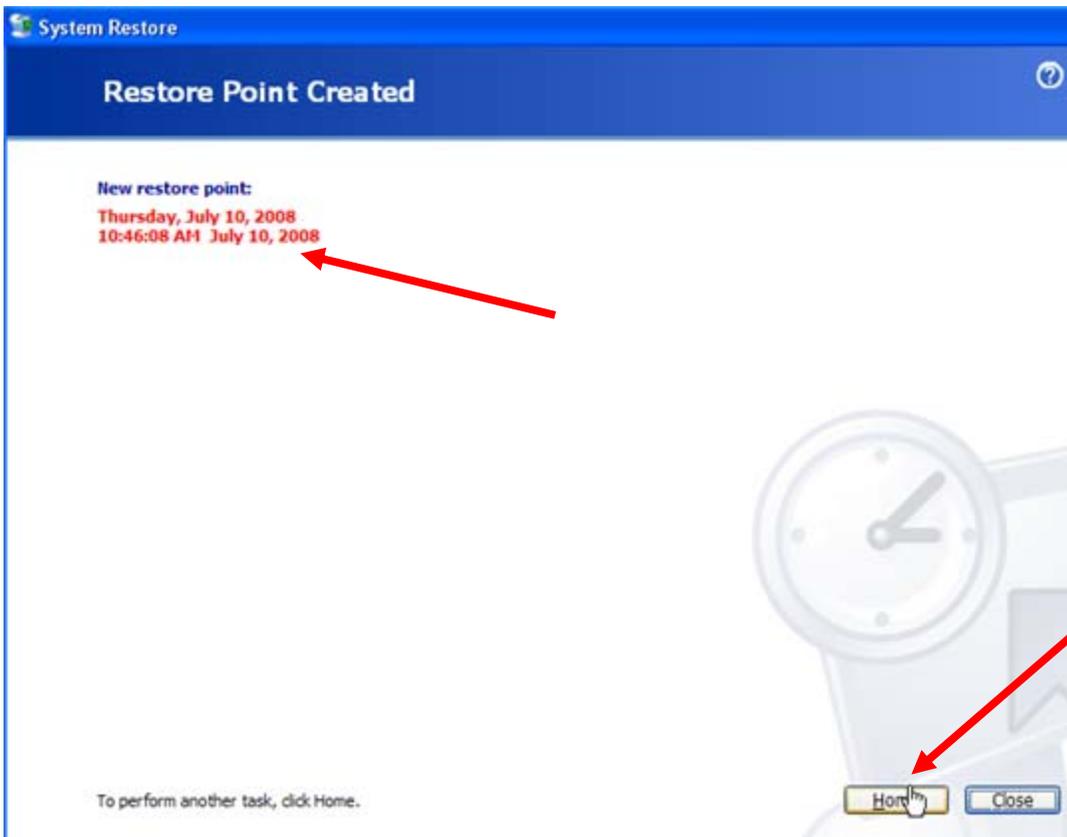


In this screen, type in the date you are doing this. In this example, the date typed is July 10, 2008.

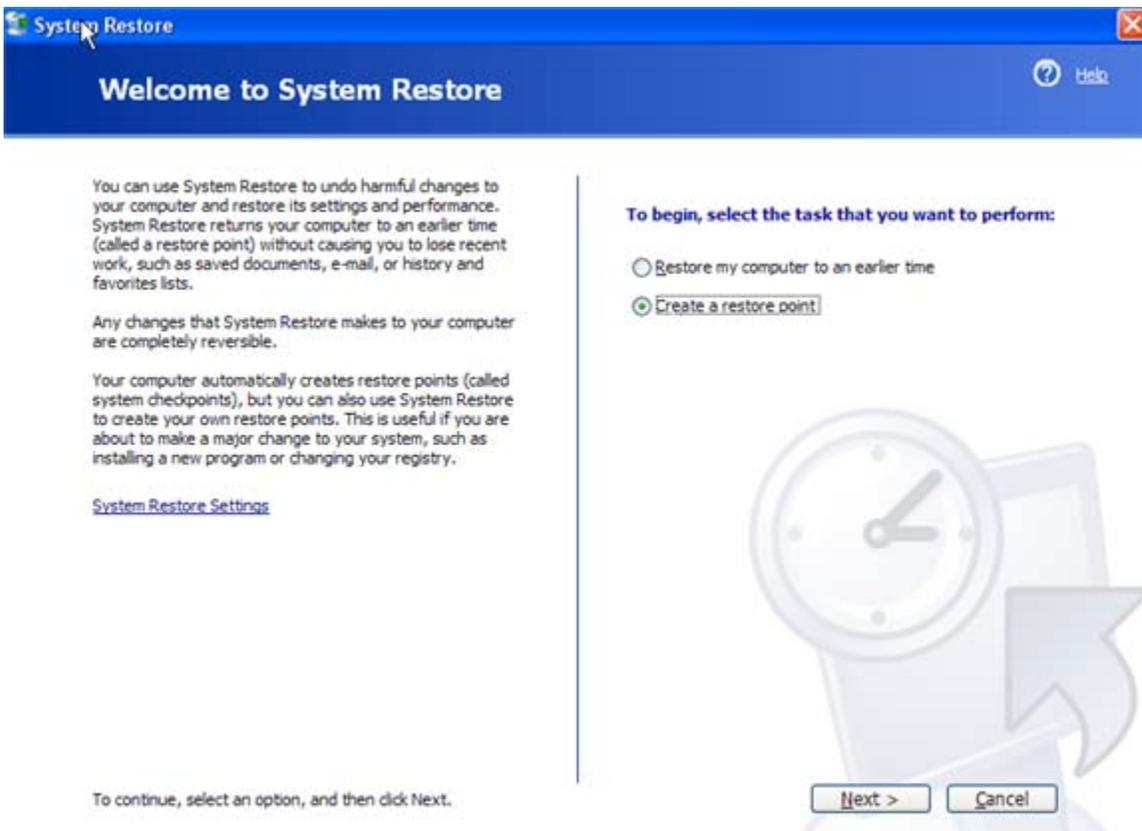
Then click on the “Create” button on the bottom.



When it is done, you will see this, letting you know that this restore point has been created.



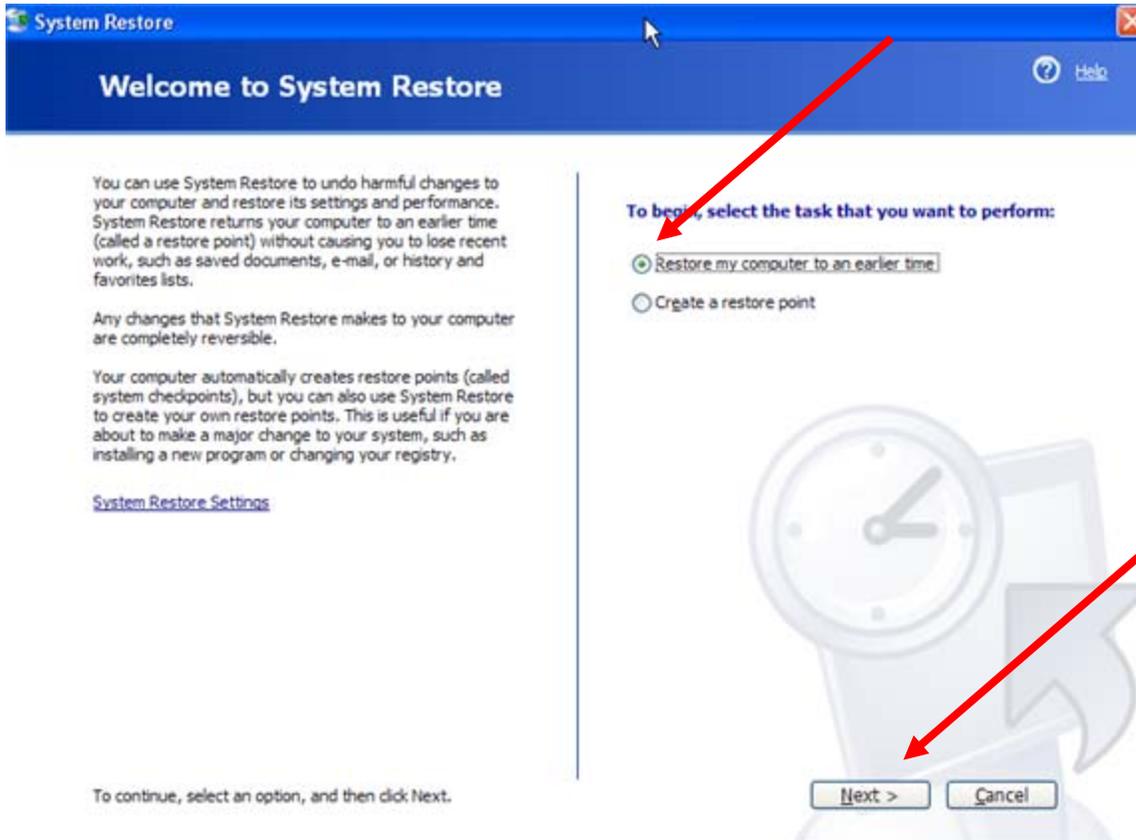
Click on the “Home” button and you’ll see this screen again:



To view a “restore point” or actually Restore Your Computer to a previous state

To verify you have created a new restore point OR to actually restore your computer to the point where it was when this restore point was created, . . .

Click to activate the “Restore my computer to an earlier time” radio button and then click on the “Next” button at the bottom.

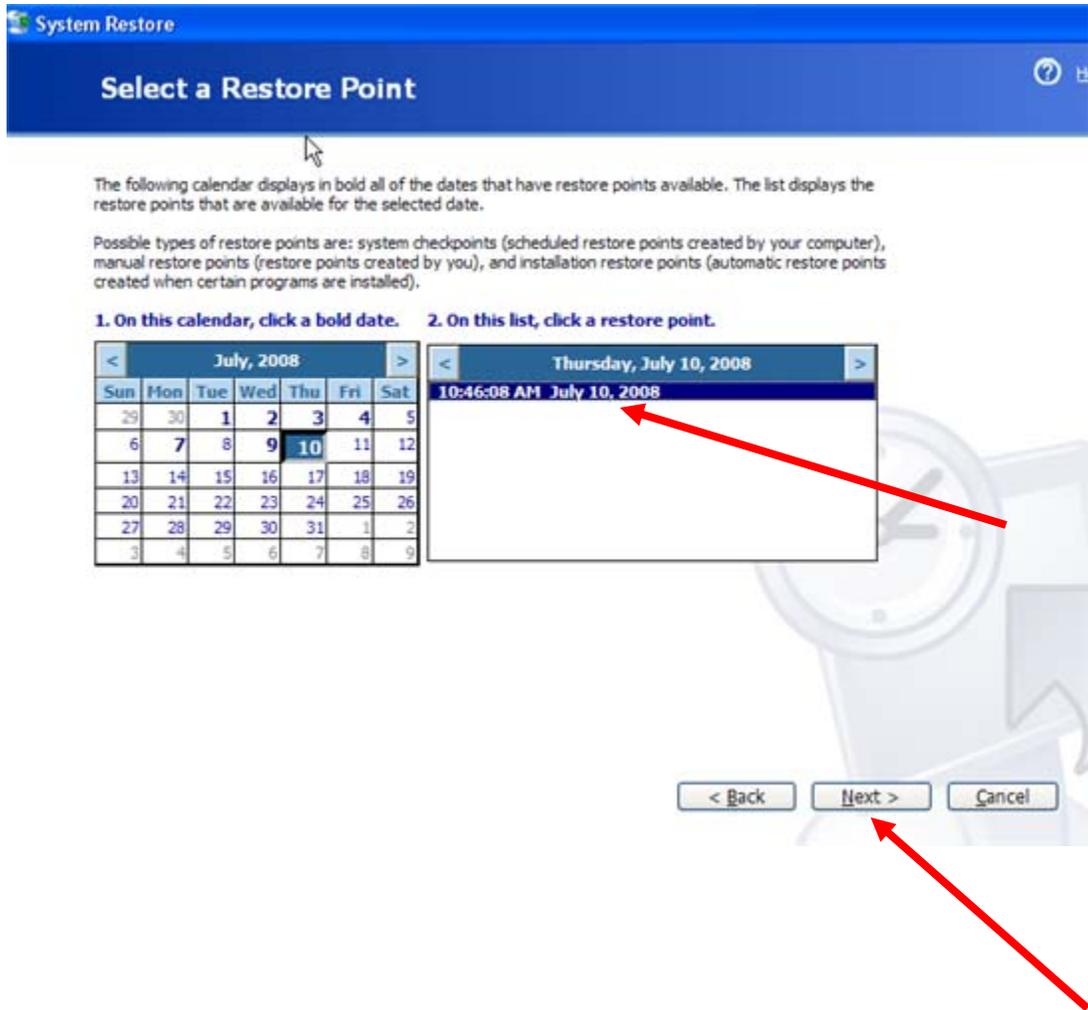


For help, call Philip Siddons at (716)250-2422.

You will see this screen, showing the “restore points” that have been set (listed on the right).

You could try to pick a date on the calendar (on the left) that is prior to when you installed new software that seemed to mess up your computer.

In this case, though, we want to restore the computer to the way it was on July 10, 2008 so with that selected, we will click on the “Next” button.



You will see this screen asking you to confirm your resetting of the computer to a previous state. Click on the “Next” button and let it finish the process. Your computer will restart and it will return to the state it was in when you set the restore point.

