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Cold Weather Tips for a Laptop

As we get ready for the cold weather this winter, a couple of things about your laptops or tablets that may help you extend the life of your portable devices.

- **Do not leave your portable device in your car or an unheated area for long periods of time.** Yes, your laptop or tablet can actually freeze. The LCD may crack if allowed to freeze. Your hard drive can freeze as well, which can shorten the life span or cause data loss. Your battery may even freeze, causing it to crack. Even if you have it in a bag, temperatures below 30 degrees for an extended period of time will damage your portable device. Just bring it inside if you can.
- **Don't get creative warming it up.** Pocket warmers, hair dryers or even sitting it on a heat vent, all have the possibility of damaging sensitive parts in the device. Just allow the laptop or tablet to warm up on its own. 30 minutes at room temperature should be enough to allow you to turn it on. If you see moisture accumulating on the case wipe it off immediately with a towel.
- **If your device did freeze.** Be careful as you unthaw it. Do not attempt to open it right away. Hinges will likely be stiff and could possibly break the case. It's best to let it thaw in an unheated space for a good period of time and then move it into a heated space. You may want to do this up to 24 hours. You still may have suffered damage but your data may still be available.

Hopefully you won't have to worry about any of these tips, but if stuff happens and you need some assistance, please give us a call at [Computer Connections](http://www.painlesspc.net). We will be happy to help!