

Windows XP Mouse Properties

Switching the Primary and Secondary Buttons



Introduction

The standard two-button mouse has a primary and secondary button. The primary button is used to select, click, double click and drag items, and position the cursor. The secondary button is used to display a menu of tasks or options that change depending on where you click in a document or the desktop. The primary button is normally the left button. For accessibility needs, or for left-handed use, you can reverse the buttons and use the right mouse button as the primary button.

This document will show you how to reverse the function of the right and left buttons using **Mouse Properties** in the **Control Panel**.

Process Summary

Switching the Primary and Secondary Mouse Buttons

1. Select mouse properties.
2. Switch buttons.
3. Test double-click speed.
4. Apply new settings.

Opening the Mouse Properties

1. Select the **Start** button to activate the **Start** menu.
2. Slide up to the **Settings** option.
3. Slide over to the **Control Panel** option.
4. Select the **Mouse** option.
5. On the **Button configuration** page, click in the **check box** to switch primary and secondary buttons, **(Figure 1, 1)**.
6. Test the double-click speed of the newly selected primary button, **(Figure 1, 2)**.
7. Adjust speed if needed, **(Figure 1, 3)**.
8. Select **Apply** then **OK**.



Figure 1

