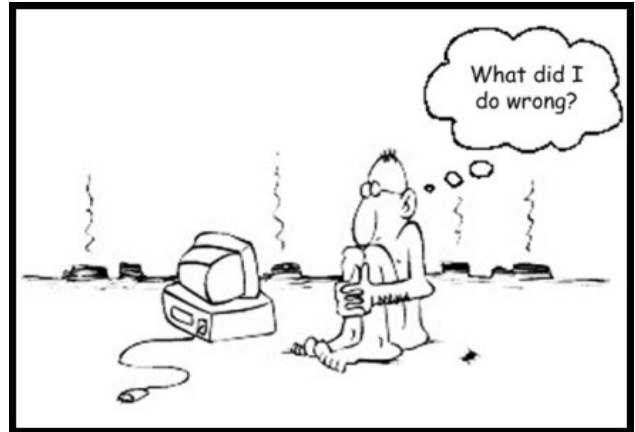


I'm Afraid I'll Push the Wrong Button

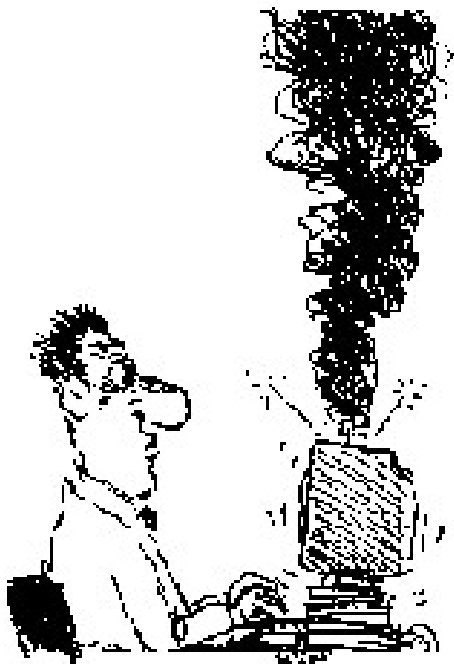
Fear of "pushing the wrong button" is really a fear of not knowing what will happen if you *do* push the wrong button. So let's start with that. When you push the wrong button, one of two things will happen:

- Something very minor
- Nothing at all

The fact is, you'll push the wrong button plenty of times. Even the pros push the wrong button many times a day. What you need to understand, though, is that pushing the wrong button won't produce catastrophic results like damaging your computer or ruining the Internet. In fact, the most likely scenario is that absolutely nothing will happen when you push the wrong button.



That's not to say that you should sit down at the computer and just push buttons until something good happens. That's not a good way to learn to use a computer. What you need to do is learn some basic skills for using your mouse and keyboard, and learn to pay attention to what's in front of you on the screen.



But don't let a fear of pushing the wrong button prevent you from learning. If some menu or dialog box opens, don't worry, just press the **Escape** key (maybe labelled **Esc**, near the upper left corner of your keyboard) to "escape" from that situation. In fact, the Escape key is so useful, you may want to jot this down on a Post-It note, and stick it onto your computer monitor:

"If in doubt, Escape key out!"

The Esc key won't get you out of everything. For example, pressing Esc won't close a program you opened by accident. But if you do open some program by accident, you can easily close it by clicking on the **Close** (☒) button in its upper right corner.