Subject: Re: Laptop Overheating

Posted by Nukelt15 on Tue, 20 May 2008 20:13:19 GMT

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The value of a cooling pad cannot be overstated- even the cheapest POS cooler will help. Some of the better ones have USB hubs in them, too- but if you get a combo cooler/hub try to find one with its own power supply as running it off USB will actually compound the overheating problem (and possibly cause your power adapter to overheat as well). You can also elevate the whole assembly to provide more space under the cooling mat, which helps a little too.

If you're really desperate for cooling, take a small desk fan and aim it over the top of the computer from the side so that the airflow hits both the top and underside of the laptop equally. This will actually work better than most cooling pads, and is lots cheaper (since even the best desk fans are ~\$5) but it's noisier. I actually used to do this with a desktop that had chronic overheating problems, and the addition of the desk fan (sitting on top of the case, no less) put an end to it right away. It works even better with laptops. Most fans won't take up too much space, either- no more than your average external hard drive.

Right now I use both- the cooling pad stays on all the time, and I flip on the desk fan if I'm running something really intense. The thing never even gets warm to the touch now.