

## After You Buy That Gadget

The first thing that you should do when opening the box is to check that everything is present and accounted for.

The product manual that comes in the box typically includes a list of parts that are included with your purchase. Some products print this list of parts on the box itself.

For mobile phones and digital cameras, look out for power adapters and cables that allow you to connect your devices to your computer. For other products, ensure that installation CDs mentioned in the packaging are not missing. And if the device has a removable battery, check that it is either in the box, or pre-installed.

Also keep a lookout for the warranty card. You will want to make sure it is stamped by the dealer. This helps you avoid ugly confrontations on repairs and replacement of parts later.

The next thing you need to do is to get your device set up right. If you have just purchased a new computer, this is especially important. Install a firewall and anti-virus program, at the minimum, immediately, no matter how tempting it may be to get online and try out your new rig right away. Because an unprotected computer can be infected in around 10 minutes.

If your device supports Wi-Fi and you have a wireless network at home, configure your device to connect to your network. This will involve keying in your network pass-phrase to your device so that it can recognize your network - which, of course, you should have secured the moment you turned it on.

Finally, give your battery a good charge before you turn on the device. Rechargeable batteries will take a few cycles of charging and discharging to reach their full advertised battery life.

## About the Author

TangoPang is a consultant. He has written several articles across many topics at <http://www.centrexcampus.com>. Click [Laptop and PC](#).

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