

## Re: "Safely remove hardware" icon is missing

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.new\\_user/2006-03/msg00026.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.new_user/2006-03/msg00026.html)

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- *From:* Jyeshta <[whatever@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:whatever@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 16 Mar 2006 14:55:22 -0600
- 

Hi John,

When I get to the window that asks what device I want to remove, the space is blank and I can't proceed ahead. I'm stumped. I checked Properties on both partitions (drive is partitioned and no single device shows up in Explorer) and there's nothing on any of the tabs to indicate the unplug option or icon. So I guess I'm out of luck. The only way I have to unplug the external drive now is to shut the computer off, which I hate doing because then certain updates need to be reinstalled all over again, so obviously, there's something wrong with Windows 2000 on my computer.

Any other suggestions would be greatly welcomed, and I thank you so much for all your help.

Gail

On Thu, 16 Mar 2006 14:41:47 -0400, John John <[audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

No, you just have to chose the "Unplug/Eject" option. It's going to look almost identical as the rundll32 method but you will run through a few screens before you get to the end. Lifted from a Microsoft page:

To unplug or eject devices

1. Open Add/Remove Hardware in Control Panel.
2. Click Next, click Uninstall/Unplug a device, and then click Next.
3. Click Unplug/Eject a device, and then click Next.
4. Select the device you want to unplug or eject, and then click Next.
5. Click Next to confirm that you want the device unplugged or ejected.

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6. Click Finish.

Important

? It is important to use the Add/Remove Hardware wizard before physically unplugging a device to avoid data loss or other serious malfunctions of the computer or device.

Notes

? To open a Control Panel item, click Start, point to Settings, click Control Panel, and then double-click the appropriate icon.

? If you frequently need to unplug the device, be sure the Show Unplug/Eject icon on the taskbar check box is selected in the Completing the Add/Remove Hardware Wizard page. The next time you want to unplug or eject the device, you can use the icon on the taskbar instead of the Add/Remove Hardware wizard.

? To reinstall the device, connect the device to the appropriate slot or port.

End

You can always click cancel at any point to exit the Hardware Wizard without changes. Remember that the drive should be plugged in in order to make it to the last steps.

Another thing to verify is with the drive plugged in right click the drive in Windows Explorer and check the "Properties" to see what options are available there.

John

Jyeshta wrote:

Hi John,

I'm kind of afraid to try the Add/Remove method for fear I'll mess something up. I take it I would be removing the external drive, which is the only USB device I have? Many, many thanks.

Gail

On Wed, 15 Mar 2006 14:22:59 -0400, John John  
<audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote:

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Usually the icon appears in the Systray, next to the clock.  
Try via the  
Control panel Add/Remove hardware and try ejecting it there  
and see if  
things change.

Jyeshta wrote:

Hi John,

On Tue, 14 Mar 2006 17:50:35 -0400, John  
John <audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote:

Try running this command  
(Start>Run):

```
RUNDLL32  
SHELL32.DLL,Control_RunDLL  
hotplug.dll
```

That should open the  
hotplug.dll. Then make sure  
that "Show  
Unplug/Eject icon on the  
taskbar" is checked.

I did this, and the item was already checked.  
Where does the icon  
appear, on the SysTray, Taskbar, or the  
expandable little row of icons  
to the left of the Taskbar? I'll check all three  
next time I plug in  
the external drive, but I thought I already  
had checked everywhere for  
it. Thank you so much, again. I'll plug in the  
drive and check for  
the icon and try your alternate method ASAP  
and post back my results.

Thank you!

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Gail

If that doesn't work go through the Control Panel Add/Remove Hardware and select the "Uninstall/Unplug a device" option and follow right through to the last screen, there you will be shown an option to have the icon in the taskbar. Tip: If you use the Add/Remove hardware option, you have to have something to unplug in order to make it to the last screen where the option can be enabled. Using the rundll32 method opens the hotplug.dll even if no devices are attached.

John

Jyeshtha wrote:

Hi,

I have an external USB hard drive but the "Safely Remove Hardware" icon is missing from System Tray even after rebooting. How would

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I  
get that  
back? I  
really don't  
want to  
damage my  
external  
drive.

Western  
Digital, the  
hard drive's  
manufacturer  
suggested  
searching  
the  
Microsoft  
Knowledge  
Base but  
my search  
didn't yield  
any results.

Running  
Windows  
2000 Pro  
with all  
service  
packs and  
critical  
updates.  
Thank you  
so much to  
anyone who  
could offer  
some  
advice.

Gail