

Re: Seeking ways to free up disc space. Please help

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2008-06/msg00629.html>

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- *From:* Bruce Chambers <[bchambers@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:bchambers@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
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attillathehun@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

I am using Windows XP on my computer and running very low on disc space. I've run "Disc cleanup" and checked on any hidden internet files but still getting a message " low on disc space".

I have 519MB left out of 40GB.

Are there ways to gain back disc space? Any free programs to use?

A primary space waster within each user profile would be IE's penchant for storing copies (or significant portions thereof) of nearly every web page you've ever visited. Try reducing the amount of temporary Internet files cached, which is huge by default. I always reduce it to a maximum of 50 Mb. In Internet Explorer, click Tools > Internet Options > General, Temporary Files > Settings.

Same principle for the Java cache. Start > Control Panel > Java > Temporary Internet Files > Settings.

The System Volume Information is the folder in which WinXP's System Restore feature stores information used to recover from errors. By default, WinXP sets aside a maximum of 12% of the partition's size for storing System Volume Information, but the amount of space set aside for this purpose can be adjusted by the user. Start > All Programs > Accessories > System Tools > System Restore > System Restore Settings, select the pertinent partition and click Settings. If you don't want to use System Restore at all, and have some other backup/recovery mechanism in place, simply turn off the System Restore feature (Start > All Programs > Accessories > System Tools > System Restore, System Restore Settings) and reboot. This will delete all of your Restore Points, freeing up the hard drive space.

Another great waster of space can be the Recycle Bin. By default, this takes up to 10% of your hard drive capacity. On today's large hard drives, this is tremendously wasteful. (It's even more wasteful, relatively speaking, on the tiny drive you have.) It can be set to a lower limit by right-clicking the desktop Recycle Bin icon, selecting Properties, and using the slider bar to lower the maximum size to something more reasonable — 1% to 2% should be more than enough space.

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Bruce Chambers

Help us help you:

<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx/kb/555375>

They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.  
~Benjamin Franklin

Many people would rather die than think; in fact, most do. ~Bertrand Russell

The philosopher has never killed any priests, whereas the priest has killed a great many philosophers.  
~ Denis Diderot

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