

# Re: Can't install printer

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.configuration\\_manage/2005-07/msg00041](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.configuration_manage/2005-07/msg00041)

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- *From:* "Karla Leavelle" <[karla@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:karla@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 7 Jul 2005 20:01:00 -0400
- 

Thank you. By the time I got around to trying your solution, the drives mysteriously reappeared. But I went ahead and tried your solution. I couldn't find an Upperfilters, but I deleted the lowerfilters and rebooted. As I said, the drive do appear.

Karla

"Shenan Stanley" <[newshelper@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:newshelper@xxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:Oc0ZA4seFHA.1456@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:Oc0ZA4seFHA.1456@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

> Karla Leavelle wrote:

>> Ever since instqlling SP2, I've had some issues with hardware. For  
>> example, my DVD drive no longer works. When opening My Computer, teh  
>> drive isn't even visible.

>

> Do NOT be afraid of the registry hack here.

> It is SAFE and has helped MANY people.

> Respect the registry, don't fear it.

>

> 1) Log on with Administrative Privileges

>

> 2) Open the Registry Editor:

> a) Go to Start then select Run.

> b) Type regedit and click OK.

>

> 3) Backup you registry by:

> a) Highlight My Computer by clicking on it once.

> b) Click File (Windows XP) or Registry (Windows 2000), then Export  
> Registry File.

> c) Select export range All; to ensure your entire registry is backed up  
> completely.

> d) Select where you would like to save this backup, name the File, and

> Click on the SAVE button.

>

> 4) Remove the Upperfilters and Lowerfilters values:

> a) Go to

> HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Class\

> {4D36E965-E325-11CE-BFC1-08002BE10318}

> b) Highlight this key by left clicking on it once.

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- > c) On the right hand side delete the values Upperfilters and
- > Lowerfilters.
- >
- > 5) Restart your computer.
- >
- > Or try this:
- >
- > <http://www.dougknox.com/>
- >
- > Select 'Windows Utilities' and scroll down to 'Restore CD/DVD drives to
- > Windows Explorer.'
- > Perhaps his utility will do the trick. =>
- >
- >> This evening I tried to install a new printer but can't. I get a
- >> message that "The Windows Installer could not be accessed. This can
- >> occur if you are using Windows in safe mode or if the Windows
- >> Installer is not correctly installed. Contact your support personnel
- >> for instructions."
- >
- > Sounds like a messed up update – when was the last time you went to
- > <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com> and scanned for/installed all the
- > updates there OTHER than hardware updates (get those from the individual
- > manufacturer's web sites instead.)
- >
- >> I had some issues installing SP2. The computer would be very slow when
- >> hitting the Start button or any of the options available from there,
- >> though my applications worked fine and browsing the Internet was OK. The
- >> only way I was able to make SP2 work was to unclick the "Shell
- >> Hardware Protection" service. COuld that be part of my problems now
- >> using some hardware and trying to install the printer?
- >
- > Download and install the FULL Service Pack 2 file.. (Pretend you are an
- > IT Professional in this case):
- >
- > Direct Download of Service Pack 2 (SP2) for Windows XP
- > <http://snipurl.com/8bqy>
- >
- > Order the Free Windows XP SP2 CD
- > <http://snipurl.com/8umo>
- >
- >
- > Then print/save the following list of tips.. You might be surprised at
- > some of the things you should/can be doing..
- >
- > Microsoft has these suggestions for Protecting your computer from the
- > various things that could happen to you/it:
- >
- > Protect your PC
- > <http://www.microsoft.com/security/protect/>
- >
- >

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- > Although those tips are fantastic, there are many things you should
- > know above and beyond what is there. Below I have detailed
- > out many steps that can not only help you clean-up a problem PC but
- > keep it clean ,secure and running at its top performance mark.
- >
- > I know this text can seem intimidating – it is quite long and a lot
- > to take in for a novice – but I assure you that one trip through this
- > list and you will understand your computer and the options available
- > to you for protecting your data much better – and that the next time
- > you review these steps, the time it takes will be greatly reduced.
- >
- > Let's take the cleanup of your computer step-by-step. Yes, it will take
- > up some of your time – but consider what you use your computer
- > for and how much you would dislike it if all of your stuff on your
- > computer went away because you did not "feel like" performing some
- > simple maintenance tasks – think of it like taking out your garbage,
- > collecting and sorting your postal mail, paying your bills on time,
- > etc.
- >
- > I'll mainly work around Windows XP, as that is what the bulk of this
- > document is about; however, here is a place for you poor souls still
- > stuck in Windows 98/ME where you can get information on maintaining
- > your system:
- >
- > Windows 98 and 'Maintaining Your Computer':
- > <http://www.microsoft.com/windows98/usingwindows/maintaining/>
- >
- > Windows ME Computer Health:
- > <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsME/using/computerhealth/articles/>
- >
- > Pay close attention to the sections:
- > (in order)
- > – Clean up your hard disk
- > – Check for errors by running ScanDisk
- > – Defragment your hard disk
- > – Roll back the clock with System Restore
- >
- >
- > Also – now is a good time to point you to one of the easiest ways to find
- > information on problems you may be having and solutions others have found:
- >
- > Search using Google!
- > <http://www.google.com/>
- > (How-to: <http://www.google.com/intl/en/help/basics.html> )
- >
- >
- > Now, let's go through some maintenance first that should only have to be
- > done once (mostly):
- >
- > Tip (1):
- > Locate all of the software you have installed on your computer.

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- > (the installation media – CDs, downloaded files, etc)
- > Collect these CDs and files together in a central and safe
- > place along with their CD keys and such. Make backups of these
- > installation media sets using your favorite copying method (CD/DVD Burner
- > and application, Disk copier, etc.) You'll be glad to know that if you
- > have a CD/DVD burner, you may be able to use a free application to make a
- > duplicate copy of your CDs. One such application is ISORecorder:
- >
- > ISORecorder page (with general instructions on use):
- > <http://isorecorder.alexfeinman.com/beta.htm>
- >
- > Yes – it is BETA software – but very useful and well tested.
- >
- > More full function applications (free) for CD/DVD burning would be:
- >
- > DeepBurner Free
- > <http://www.deepburner.com/>
- >
- > CDBurnerXP Pro
- > <http://www.cdburnerxp.se/>
- >
- > Another Option would be to search the web with Pricewatch.com or
- > Dealsites.net and find deals on Products like Ahead Nero and/or Roxio.
- >
- >
- > Tip (2):
- > Empty your Temporary Internet Files and shrink the size it stores to a
- > size between 128MB and 512MB..
- >
- > – Open ONE copy of Internet Explorer.
- > – Select TOOLS –> Internet Options.
- > – Under the General tab in the "Temporary Internet Files" section, do the
- > following:
- > – Click on "Delete Cookies" (click OK)
- > – Click on "Settings" and change the "Amount of disk space to use:" to
- > something between 128MB and 512MB. (Betting it is MUCH larger right
- > now.)
- > – Click OK.
- > – Click on "Delete Files" and select to "Delete all offline contents"
- > (the checkbox) and click OK. (If you had a LOT, this could take 2–10
- > minutes or more.)
- > – Once it is done, click OK, close Internet Explorer, re–open Internet
- > Explorer.
- >
- >
- > Tip (3):
- > If things are running a bit sluggish and/or you have an older system
- > (1.5GHz or less and 256MB RAM or less) then you may want to look into
- > tweaking the performance by turning off some of the 'resource hogging'
- > Windows XP "prettifications". The fastest method is:
- >

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- > Control Panel --> System --> Advanced tab --> Performance section,
- > Settings button. Then choose "adjust for best performance" and you
- > now have a Windows 2000/98 look which turned off most of the annoying
- > "prettifications" in one swift action. You can play with the last
- > three checkboxes to get more of an XP look without many of the
- > other annoyances. You could also grab and install/use one
- > (or more) of the Microsoft Powertoy's – TweakUI in particular:
- >
- > <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/powertoy's/xppowertoy's.msp>
- >
- >
- > Tip (4):
- > Understanding what a good password might be is vital to your
- > personal and system security. You may think you do not need to password
- > your home computer, as you may have it in a locked area (your home) where
- > no one else has access to it. Remember, however, you aren't always
- > "in that locked area" when using your computer online – meaning you likely
- > have usernames and passwords associated with web sites and the likes that
- > you would prefer other people do not discover/use. This is why you should
- > understand and utilize good passwords.
- >
- > Good passwords are those that meet these general rules
- > (mileage may vary):
- >
- > Passwords should contain at least six characters, and the character
- > string should contain at least three of these four character types:
- > – uppercase letters
- > – lowercase letters
- > – numerals
- > – nonalphanumeric characters (e.g., \*, %, &, !, :)
- >
- > Passwords should not contain your name/username.
- > Passwords should be unique to you and easy to remember.
- >
- > One method many people are using today is to make up a phrase that
- > describes a point in their life and then turning that phrase into their
- > password by using only certain letters out of each word in that phrase.
- > It's much better than using your birthday month/year or your anniversary
- > in a pure sense. For example, let's say my phrase is:
- > 'Moved to new home in 2004'
- > I could come up with this password from that:
- > 'Mv2n3whmN04'
- >
- > The password tip is in the one time section, but I highly
- > recommend you periodically change your passwords. The suggested time
- > varies, but I will throw out a 'once in every 3 to 6 months for
- > every account you have.'
- >
- >
- > Tip (5):
- > This tip is also 'questionable' in the one time section; however –

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- > if properly setup – this one can be pretty well ignored for most people
- > after the initial 'fiddle-with' time.
- >
- > Why you should use a computer firewall..
- > <http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/viruses/fwbenefits.msp>
- >
- > You should, in some way, use a firewall. Hardware (like a nice
- > Cable Modem/DSL router) or software is up to you. Many use both of
- > these. The simplest one to use is the hardware one, as most people
- > don't do anything that they will need to configure their NAT device
- > for and those who do certainly will not mind fiddling with the equipment
- > to make things work for them. Next in the line of simplicity would
- > have to be the built-in Windows Firewall of Windows XP. In SP2 it
- > is turned on by default. It is not difficult to turn on in any
- > case, however:
- >
- > Enable/Disable the Internet Connection Firewall (Pre-SP2):
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/283673>
- >
- > More information on the Internet Connection Firewall (Pre-SP2):
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/320855>
- >
- > Post-SP2 Windows Firewall Information/guidance:
- > <http://snipurl.com/atal>
- >
- > The trouble with the Windows Firewall is that it only keeps things
- > out. For most people who maintain their system in other ways, this is
- > MORE than sufficient. However, you may feel otherwise. If you want to
- > know when one of your applications is trying to obtain access to the
- > outside world so you can stop it, then you will have to install a
- > third-party application and configure/maintain it. I have compiled a
- > list with links of some of the better known/free firewalls you can choose
- > from:
- >
- > BlackICE PC Protection (~\$39.95 and up)
- > <http://blackice.iss.net/>
- >
- > Jetico Personal Firewall (Free)
- > <http://www.jetico.com/index.htm#/jpfirewall.htm>
- >
- > Kerio Personal Firewall (KPF) (Free and up)
- > [http://www.kerio.com/kpf\\_download.html](http://www.kerio.com/kpf_download.html)
- >
- > Outpost Firewall from Agnitum (Free and up)
- > <http://www.agnitum.com/download/>
- >
- > Sygate Personal Firewall (Free and up)
- > [http://smb.sygate.com/buy/download\\_buy.htm](http://smb.sygate.com/buy/download_buy.htm)
- >
- > Symantec's Norton Personal Firewall (~\$25 and up)
- > <http://www.symantec.com/sabu/nis/npf/>

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- >
- > ZoneAlarm (Free and up)
- > <http://snipurl.com/6ohg>
- >
- > You should find the right firewall for your situation in that
- > list and set it up.
- >
- > Every firewall WILL require some maintenance. Essentially checking for
- > patches or upgrades (this goes for hardware and software solutions) is
- > the extent of this maintenance – you may also have to configure your
- > firewall to allow some traffic depending on your needs.
- >
- > \*\* Don't stack the software firewalls! Running more than one software
- > firewall will not make you safer – it would possibly negate some
- > protection you gleamed from one or the other firewall you run.
- >
- >
- > Now that you have some of the more basic things down..
- > Let's go through some of the steps you should take periodically to
- > maintain a healthy and stable windows computer. If you have not
- > done some of these things in the past, they may seem tedious – however,
- > they will become routine and some can even be automatically scheduled.
- >
- >
- > Tip (6):
- > The system restore feature is a new one – first appearing in Windows
- > ME and then sticking around for Windows XP. It is a useful feature
- > if you keep it maintained and use it to your advantage. Remember that
- > the system restore pretty much tells you in the name what it protects
- > which is 'system' files. Your documents, your pictures, your stuff is
- > NOT system files – so you should also look into some backup solution.
- >
- > I have seen the automatic system restore go wrong too many times not
- > to suggest the following.. Whenever you think about it (after doing a
- > once-over on your machine once a month or so would be optimal) – clear
- > out your System Restore and create a manual restoration point.
- >
- > 'Why?'
- >
- > Too many times have I seen the system restore files go corrupt or get
- > a virus in them, meaning you could not or did not want to restore from
- > them. By clearing it out periodically you help prevent any corruption
- > from happening and you make sure you have at least one good "snapshot".
- > (\*This, of course, will erase any previous restore point you have.\*)
- >
- > – Turn off System Restore.
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/310405>
- > – Reboot the Computer.
- > – Review the first bullet to turn on System Restore
- > – Make a Manual Restoration Point.
- > <http://snipurl.com/68nx>

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- >
- > That covers your system files, but doesn't do anything for the files
- > that you are REALLY worried about – yours! For that you need to look
- > into backups. You can either manually copy your important files, folders,
- > documents, spreadsheets, emails, contacts, pictures, drawings and so on
- > to an external location (CD/DVD – any disk of some sort, etc) or you can
- > use the backup tool that comes with Windows XP:
- >
- > How To Use Backup to Back Up Files and Folders on Your Computer
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/308422>
- >
- > Yes – you still need some sort of external media to store the results
- > on, but you could schedule the backup to occur when you are not around,
- > then burn the resultant data onto CD or DVD or something when you are
- > (while you do other things!)
- >
- > A lot of people have wondered about how to completely backup their system
- > so that they would not have to go through the trouble of a reinstall..
- > I'm going to voice my opinion here and say that it would be worthless to
- > do for MOST people. Unless you plan on periodically updating the image
- > backup of your system (remaking it) – then by the time you use it
- > (something goes wrong) – it will be so outdated as to be more trouble than
- > performing a full install of the operating system and all applications.
- >
- > Having said my part against it, you can clone/backup your hard drive
- > completely using many methods – by far the simplest are using disk cloning
- > applications:
- >
- > Symantec/Norton Ghost
- > <http://www.symantec.com/sabu/ghost/>
- >
- > Acronis True Image
- > <http://www.acronis.com/homecomputing/products/trueimage>
- >
- >
- > Tip (7):
- > You should sometimes look through the list of applications that are
- > installed on your computer. The list may surprise you. There are more
- > than likely things in there you know you never use – so why have them
- > there? There may even be things you know you did \*not\* install and
- > certainly do not use (maybe don't WANT to use.)
- >
- > This web site should help you get started at looking through this list:
- >
- > How to Uninstall Programs
- > <http://snipurl.com/8v6b>
- >
- > A word of warning – Do NOT uninstall anything you think you MIGHT need
- > in the future unless you have completed Tip (1) and have the installation
- > media and proper keys for use backed up somewhere safe!
- >

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- >
- > Tip (8):
- > Patches and Updates!
- >
- > This one cannot be stressed enough. It is SO simple, yet so neglected
- > by many people. It is especially simple for the critical Windows patches!
- > Microsoft put in an AUTOMATED feature for you to utilize so that you do
- > NOT have to worry yourself about the patching of the Operating System:
- >
- > How to configure and use Automatic Updates in Windows XP
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/306525>
- >
- > However, not everyone wants to be a slave to automation, and that is
- > fine. Admittedly, I prefer this method on some of my more critical
- > systems.
- >
- > Windows Update
- > <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/>
- >
- > Go there and scan your machine for updates. Always get the critical ones
- > as you see them. Write down the KB##### or Q##### you see when
- > selecting the updates and if you have trouble over the next few days,
- > go into your control panel (Add/Remove Programs), insure that the
- > 'Show Updates' checkbox is checked and match up the latest numbers you
- > downloaded recently (since you started noticing an issue) and uninstall
- > them. If there was more than one (usually is), uninstall them one by one
- > with a few hours of use in between, to see if the problem returns.
- > Yes – the process is not perfect (updating) and can cause trouble like I
- > mentioned – but as you can see, the solution isn't that bad – and is
- > MUCH better than the alternatives.
- >
- > Windows is not the only product you likely have on your PC. The
- > manufacturers of the other products usually have updates. New versions
- > of almost everything come out all the time – some are free, some are pay
- > and some you can only download if you are registered – but it is best
- > to check. Just go to their web pages and look under their support and
- > download sections. For example, for Microsoft Office you should visit:
- >
- > Microsoft Office Updates
- > <http://office.microsoft.com/>
- > (and select 'Check for Updates' and/or 'Downloads' for more)
- >
- > You also have hardware on your machine that requires drivers to interface
- > with the operating system. You have a video card that allows you to see
- > on
- > your screen, a sound card that allows you to hear your PCs sound output
- > and
- > so on. Visit those manufacturer web sites for the latest downloadable
- > drivers for your hardware/operating system. Always get the manufacturers'
- > hardware driver over any Microsoft offers. On the Windows Update site I
- > mentioned earlier, I suggest NOT getting their hardware drivers – no

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- > matter
- > how tempting.
- >
- > How do you know what hardware you have in your computer? Break out the
- > invoice or if it is up and working now – take inventory:
- >
- > Belarc Advisor
- > [http://belarc.com/free\\_download.html](http://belarc.com/free_download.html)
- >
- > EVEREST Home Edition
- > <http://www.lavalys.com/products/download.php?pid=1&lang=en>
- >
- > Once you know what you have, what next? Go get the latest driver for your
- > hardware/OS from the manufacturer's web page. For example, let's say you
- > have an NVidia chipset video card or ATI video card, perhaps a Creative
- > Labs sound card or C–Media chipset sound card...
- >
- > NVidia Video Card Drivers
- > <http://www.nvidia.com/content/drivers/drivers.asp>
- >
- > ATI Video Card Drivers
- > <http://www.atitech.com/support/driver.html>
- >
- > Creative Labs Sound Device
- > <http://us.creative.com/support/downloads/>
- >
- > C–Media Sound Device
- > [http://www.cmedia.com.tw/e\\_download\\_01.htm](http://www.cmedia.com.tw/e_download_01.htm)
- >
- > Then install these drivers. Updated drivers are usually more stable and
- > may provide extra benefits/features that you really wished you had before.
- >
- > As for Service Pack 2 (SP2) for Windows XP, Microsoft has made this
- > particular patch available in a number of ways. First, there is the
- > Windows Update web page above. Then there is a direct download site
- > and finally, you can order the FREE CD from Microsoft.
- >
- > Direct Download of Service Pack 2 (SP2) for Windows XP
- > <http://snipurl.com/8bqy>
- >
- > Order the Free Windows XP SP2 CD
- > <http://snipurl.com/8umo>
- >
- > If all else fails – grab the full download above and try to use that.
- > In this case – consider yourself a 'IT professional or developer'.
- >
- >
- > Tip (9):
- > What about the dreaded word in the computer world, VIRUS?
- >
- > Well, there are many products to choose from that will help you prevent

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- > infections from these horrid little applications. Many are FREE to the
- > home user and which you choose is a matter of taste, really. Many people
- > have emotional attachments or performance issues with one or another
- > AntiVirus software. Try some out, read reviews and decide for yourself
- > which you like more:
- >
- > ( Good Comparison Page for AV software: <http://www.av-comparatives.org/> )
- >
- > AntiVir (Free and up)
- > <http://www.free-av.com/>
- >
- > avast! (Free and up)
- > <http://www.avast.com/>
- >
- > AVG Anti-Virus System (Free and up)
- > <http://free.grisoft.com/>
- >
- > eset NOD32 (~\$39.00 and up)
- > <http://www.eset.com/products/products.htm>
- >
- > eTrust EZ Antivirus (~\$29.95 and up)
- > <http://ca.com/store/home/us/hp2/>
- >
- > Kaspersky Anti-Virus (~\$49.95 and up)
- > <http://www.kaspersky.com/products.html>
- >
- > McAfee VirusScan (~\$11 and up)
- > <http://www.mcafee.com/>
- >
- > Panda Antivirus Titanium (~\$39.95 and up)
- > <http://www.pandasoftware.com/>
- > (Free Online Scanner: <http://www.pandasoftware.com/activescan/>)
- >
- > RAV AntiVirus Online Virus Scan (Free!)
- > <http://www.ravantivirus.com/scan/>
- >
- > Symantec (Norton) AntiVirus (~\$11 and up)
- > [http://www.symantec.com/nav/nav\\_9xnt/](http://www.symantec.com/nav/nav_9xnt/)
- >
- > Trend Micro (~\$49.95 and up)
- > <http://www.trendmicro.com/en/home/us/personal.htm>
- > (Free Online Scanner:
- > [http://housecall.trendmicro.com/housecall/start\\_corp.asp](http://housecall.trendmicro.com/housecall/start_corp.asp))
- >
- >
- > Most of them have automatic update capabilities. You will have to
- > look into the features of the one you choose. Whatever one you finally
- > settle with – be SURE to keep it updated (I recommend at least daily) and
- > perform a full scan periodically (yes, most protect you actively, but a
- > full scan once a month at 4AM probably won't bother you.)
- >

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- >
- > Tip (10):
- > The most rampant infestation at the current time concerns SPYWARE/ADWARE.
- > You need to eliminate it from your machine.
- >
- > There is no one software that cleans and immunizes you against
- > everything. Antivirus software – you only needed one. Firewall, you
- > only needed one. AntiSpyware – you will need several. I have a list and
- > I recommend you use at least the first five.
- >
- > First – make sure you have NOT installed "Rogue AntiSpyware". There are
- > people out there who created AntiSpyware products that actually install
- > spyware of their own! You need to avoid these:
- >
- > Rogue/Suspect Anti–Spyware Products & Web Sites
- > [http://www.spywarewarrior.com/rogue\\_anti-spyware.htm](http://www.spywarewarrior.com/rogue_anti-spyware.htm)
- >
- > Also, you can always visit this site..
- > <http://mvps.org/winhelp2002/unwanted.htm>
- > For more updated information.
- >
- > Install the first five of these: (Install, Run, Update, Scan with..)
- > (If you already have one or more – uninstall them and download the
- > LATEST version from the page given!)
- >
- > Lavasoft AdAware (Free and up)
- > <http://www.lavasoft.de/support/download/>
- > (How–to: <http://snipurl.com/atdn> )
- >
- > Spybot Search and Destroy (Free!)
- > <http://www.safer-networking.net/en/download/index.html>
- > (How–to: <http://snipurl.com/atdk> )
- >
- > Bazooka Adware and Spyware Scanner (Free!)
- > <http://www.kephyr.com/spywarescanner/>
- > (How–to: <http://snipurl.com/ate3> )
- >
- > SpywareBlaster (Free!)
- > <http://www.javacoolsoftware.com/sbdownload.html>
- > (How–to: <http://snipurl.com/ate6> )
- >
- > IE–SPYAD2 (Free!)
- > <https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/ehowes/www/resource.htm>
- > (How–to: <http://snipurl.com/ate7> )
- >
- > CWShredder Stand–Alone (Free!)
- > [http://www.intermute.com/spysubtract/cwshredder\\_download.html](http://www.intermute.com/spysubtract/cwshredder_download.html)
- >
- > Hijack This! (Free!)
- > <http://www.spywareinfo.com/~merijn/downloads.html>
- > (Log Analyzer: <http://hjt.iamnotageek.com/> )

Re: Can't install printer

Re: Can't install printer

- >
- > ToolbarCop (Free!)
- > <http://windowsxp.mvps.org/toolbarcop.htm>
- >
- > Microsoft AntiSpyware BETA (in testing stages – Free!)
- > <http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/spyware/software/>
- > (How-to: <http://snipurl.com/fqur> )
- >
- > Browser Security Tests (Free Tester)
- > <http://www.jasons-toolbox.com/BrowserSecurity/>
- >
- > Popup Tester (Free Tester)
- > <http://www.popupstest.com/>
- >
- > The Cleaner (~\$49.95 and up)
- > <http://www.moosoft.com/>
- >
- > Sometimes you need to install the application and reboot into SAFE MODE in
- > order to thoroughly clean your computer. Many applications also have
- > (or are) immunization applications. Spybot Search and Destroy and
- > SpywareBlaster are two that currently do the best job at passively
- > protecting your system from malware. None of these programs (in these
- > editions) run in the background unless you TELL them to. The space they
- > take up and how easy they are to use greatly makes up for any
- > inconvenience
- > you may be feeling.
- >
- > Please notice that Windows XP SP2 does help stop popups as well.
- >
- > Another option is to use an alternative Web browser. I suggest
- > 'Mozilla Firefox', as it has some great features and is very easy to use:
- >
- > Mozilla Firefox
- > <http://www.mozilla.org/products/firefox/>
- >
- >
- > So your machine is pretty clean and up to date now. If you use the
- > sections
- > above as a guide, it should stay that way as well! There are still a few
- > more things you can do to keep your machine running in top shape.
- >
- >
- > Tip (11):
- > You should periodically check your hard drive(s) for errors and defragment
- > them. Only defragment after you have cleaned up your machine of
- > outside parasites and never defragment as a solution to a quiriness in
- > your system. It may help speed up your system, but it should be clean
- > before you do this. Do these things IN ORDER...
- >
- > How to use Disk Cleanup
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/310312>

## Re: Can't install printer

- >
- > How to scan your disks for errors
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/315265>
- >
- > How to Defragment your hard drives
- > <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/314848>
- >
- > I would personally perform the above steps at least once every three
- > months.
- > For most people this should be sufficient, but if the difference you
- > notice
- > afterwards is greater than you think it should be, lessen the time in
- > between its schedule.. If the difference you notice is negligible, you
- > can
- > increase the time.
- >
- >
- > Tip (12):
- > **SPAM! JUNK MAIL!**
- > This one can get annoying, just like the rest. You get 50 emails in one
- > sitting and 2 of them you wanted. NICE! (Not.) What can you do? Well,
- > although there are services out there to help you, some email
- > servers/services that actually do lower your spam with features built into
- > their servers – I still like the methods that let you be the end–decision
- > maker on what is spam and what is not. I have two products to suggest to
- > you, look at them and see if either of them suite your needs. Again, if
- > they don't, Google is free and available for your perusal.
- >
- > SpamBayes (Free!)
- > <http://spambayes.sourceforge.net/>
- >
- > Spamihilator (Free!)
- > <http://www.spamihilator.com/>
- >
- > As I said, those are not your only options, but are reliable ones I have
- > seen function for hundreds+ people.
- >
- >
- > Tip (13):
- > **ADVANCED TIP!** Only do this once you are comfortable under the hood of
- > your
- > computer!
- >
- > There are lots of services on your PC that are probably turned on by
- > default
- > you don't use. Why have them on? Check out these web pages to see what
- > all
- > of the services you might find on your computer are and set them according
- > to your personal needs. Be CAREFUL what you set to manual, and take heed
- > and write down as you change things! Also, don't expect a large
- > performance

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- > increase or anything – especially on today's 2+ GHz machines, however – I
- > look at each service you set to manual as one less service you have to
- > worry
- > about someone exploiting.
- >
- > Configuring Services
- > <http://snakefoot.fateback.com/tweak/winnt/services.html>
- >
- > Task List Programs
- > [http://www.answerthatwork.com/Tasklist\\_pages/tasklist.htm](http://www.answerthatwork.com/Tasklist_pages/tasklist.htm)
- >
- > Processes in Windows NT/2000/XP
- > <http://www.reger24.de/prozesse/>
- >
- > There are also applications that AREN'T services that startup when you
- > start
- > up the computer/logon. One of the better description on how to handle
- > these
- > I have found here:
- >
- > Startups
- > [http://www.pacs-portal.co.uk/startup\\_content.php](http://www.pacs-portal.co.uk/startup_content.php)
- >
- >
- > If you follow the advice laid out above (and do some of your own research
- > as
- > well, so you understand what you are doing) – your computer will stay
- > fairly
- > stable and secure and you will have a more trouble-free system.
- >
- > --
- > Shenan Stanley
- > MS-MVP
- > --
- > How To Ask Questions The Smart Way
- > <http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>
- >

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- Prev by Date: [\*\*\*Re: Can't update Windows\*\*\*](#)
  - Next by Date: [\*\*\*My Computer slow to reveal\*\*\*](#)
  - Previous by thread: [\*\*\*right mouseclick > other programs > no choice anymore; always notepad\*\*\*](#)
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