

My "Search" function in Win XP suddenly stopped (Totally)

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http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.configuration_manage/2005-10/msg00019

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 - *Date:* Sun, 02 Oct 2005 17:44:19 GMT
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I have used PC's for 10+ years and I've used Windows since 1989. I'm not even close to being a computer expert or a programmer. But, on the other hand, I'm not totally naive. I think I'm a moderately competent mid-level Windows and Linux user and 'enthusiast'. I have happily used XP-Pro for about 2 years.

Here is my problem --> The Microsoft "Search" function via graphical interface under my "Start" button has always worked very well and it's all I need at home. However, it has suddenly **TOTALLY STOPPED WORKING**. At this point, it doesn't return ANY replies. (Even with simple file requests with no restrictions.) For example: if I search for 'a.doc' (i.e. a hypothetical search for --> 'C:\a.doc') I don't receive ANY files. (Note: I even tried placing a few bogus *.doc files in my on the system -- in addition to the legit 'a.doc' that I want to find) I've used this function via both GUI or Command thousands of times in various permutations. (It's one of those simple commands that I often use).

Bottom Line ----> My search function gives NO replies to a basic local file "Search" on my own computer for a file! The "Search" function always worked, until now. The rest of my system works without any flaws and seems to behave perfectly. I have not made any recent changes (major or minor) to my system. I have not modified my registry, I have not installed or deleted any programs or executable files in 4 or 5 weeks. I'm fairly sure I have no virus, Trojan or Spyware problems. I re-booted then totally shut down the computer several times.

If at all possible, I DO NOT want to reformat and re-install. (I know, it would work, and, I have two good backups (tape + DVD), but a reinstallation costs me 1+ days) I'm running an old and reliable P-II system at 450 MHz. and I only have 380 RAM. This works fine for my all home needs. I'll appreciate any good suggestions from you competent people and I love this newsgroup.

Thank you.

-- Mister Zoned Zombie

(Note: I received a Gates Score = 6.5 on the May Level II exam and I plan to take the Level III practicals in November)

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"There are 2 possible outcomes: If the result confirms the hypothesis, you've made a measurement. If the result is contrary to the hypothesis, then you've made a discovery"

Enrico Fermi

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