

Re: Cannot access secure sites

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Sometime on, or about Sun, 28 Mar 2004 14:16:48 -0800, Sam scribbled:

- > *My wife's computer's MSIE has all of a sudden started doing strange things.*
- > *When she accesses a secure site with a login, no login box appears. There*
- > *are other sites she can't access at all. We just tried Windows update and*
- > *it won't let her do the update, even though we can see some items that need*
- > *to be done.*
- >
- > *This is what we've done so far. Checked for viruses (full disk scan).*
- > *Checked for adware using both AdAware and SpyBot. Checked to be sure that*
- > *the security settings within Internet Explorer were set to Medium and that*
- > *the security settings were set correctly in Tools/Advanced/Security. We've*
- > *emptied the Internet Explorer Temporary Internet Files. Finally when none*
- > *of this helped, we did a repair installation of Windows. Still no luck.*
- >
- > *What are we missing here?*
- >
- > *Thanks.*
- >
- > *Sam*

We finally gave up and totally re-installed Windows... it now works perfectly. I find that I usually have to do that about once a year on my machine... after 12 months of installing and uninstalling software, adding patches and everything else, Windows just starts to get real weird.

I don't think it has to do with "viruses"... we both run the latest iteration of Norton AntiVirus (updated constantly), we're behind a router with NAT, and we run Norton Personal Firewall as well. Neither of us use Outlook or Outlook Express for email and we know better than to open executable attachments.

I personally think that a lot of software is written poorly. They also have un-installer programs that do not clean up after themselves very well. I use a registry scanner to find all the bits and pieces they leave behind.

<sigh>

microsoft.public.windowsxp.general: Re: Cannot access secure sites

Sam