

Re: Error message

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2005-03/0855.html>

From: Malke (*malke_at_nospoonnotreally.com*)

Date: 02/28/05

Date: Mon, 28 Feb 2005 12:12:11 -0800

Gus wrote:

> *Hi, Every time i reboot i am getting that error message:*
> *RUNDLL*
> *error loading c:\progra 1\newdot 1\newdot 1.DLL*
> *the specified module could not be found....any ideas what*
> *it is?*

NewDotNet is spyware. Did you just remove some? If so, the removal tool left a reference to the program in Start Up. To stop the error message:

Go to Start>Run and type (without quotes) "msconfig" [enter]. This brings up the System Configuration Utility. Look on the Startup tab and find the probable culprit. Uncheck the box next to its name, Apply and OK out. You don't need to restart immediately, but the next time you do you'll get a dialog saying you've used the Utility. Just tick the box that says in effect, "don't bother me about this again".

If you haven't cleaned up malware recently, you need to. Here are general malware removal steps. Do everything with updated tools in Safe Mode.

Delete Temporary and Temporary Internet Files. Then:

1) Scan in Safe Mode with current version (not earlier than 2004) antivirus using updated definitions.

Before you remove malware, get LSPFix (or WinSockFix for XP which you can get from MajorGeeks) – see links below.

2) Remove spyware with Spybot Search & Destroy and Ad-aware. These programs are free, so use them both since they complement each other. There is a new version of CWShredder from Intermute. I would not install the other Intermute programs, however. Alternately, there are CoolWebSearch malware removal steps at SilentRunners.

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Be sure to update these programs before running, and it is a good idea to do virus/spyware scans in Safe Mode. Make sure you are able to see all hidden files and extensions (View tab in Folder Options).

If the malware remains even after you used Ad-aware and Spybot, you can scan with HijackThis. HijackThis is an excellent tool to discover and disable hijackers, but it requires expert skill. See below for HijackThis links, including sites where you can post your HJT logs. A combination of HijackThis and About:Buster works well in removing the About:Blank homepage hijacker. Again, this is an expert tool and novices should get help with it.

3) If you are running Windows ME or XP, you should disable/enable System Restore after the system is clean because malware will be in the Restore Points. With ME, you must disable System Restore completely. With XP, you can delete all but the most recent (presumably clean) System Restore point from the More Options section of Disk Cleanup (Run>cleanmgr).

4) Make sure you've visited Windows Update and applied all security patches. Do not install driver updates from Windows Update.

5) Run a firewall.

Links to help with malware:

Software/Methods:

<http://www.safer-networking.org> – Spybot Search & Destroy

<http://www.lavasoftusa.com> – Ad-aware

<http://www.majorgeeks.com> – good download site

http://www.intermute.com/spysubtract/cwshredder_download.html

http://www.silentrunners.org/sr_cwsremoval.html. – SilentRunners

<http://www.cexx.org/lspfix.htm> – Repair Winsock 2 settings after removing spyware

<http://www.spychecker.com/program/winsockxpfix.html> – WinsockXPFix.exe

HijackThis:

<http://www.aumha.org/a/hjttutor.htm> – HijackThis tutorial by Jim Eshelman

<http://aumha.net> – forums

<http://spywarewarrior.com/viewforum.php?f=5> – Spyware Warrior HijackThis forum

<http://www.wilderssecurity.com/>

<http://forums.tomcoyote.org/>

General:

<http://aumha.net> – look under "Security" for various forums

<http://rgharper.mvps.org/cleanit.htm>

<http://mvps.org/winhelp2002/unwanted.htm>

<http://www.aumha.org/a/parasite.htm> – The Parasite Fight

http://www.spywarewarrior.com/rogue_anti-spyware.htm

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MS MVP - Windows Shell/User
Elephant Boy Computers
www.elephantboycomputers.com
"Don't Panic!"