

# Re: Corrupt Registry

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2005-06/msg11177.html>

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- *From:* "Jim Byrd" <[jrbyrd@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:jrbyrd@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 22 Jun 2005 11:24:14 -0700
- 

ag – As an alternative to using a floppy, if you store the .txt file within your %System% directory (or a sub-directory), then you'll be able to cd to that directory and access it also from the Recovery Console and execute the batch cmd directly. You might also want to consider using Erdnt/Erunt and restoring its files using the batch approach:

Get Erunt here for all NT-based computers including XP:

<http://www.larshederer.homepage.t-online.de/erunt/> I've set it up to take a scheduled backup each night at 12:01AM on a weekly round-robin basis, and a Monthly on the 1st of each month. See here for how to set that up:

<http://www.larshederer.homepage.t-online.de/erunt/erunt.txt>, and for some useful information about this subject

The following tutorials are useful:

Installing & Using ERUNT

[http://www.silentrunners.org/sr\\_eruntuse.html](http://www.silentrunners.org/sr_eruntuse.html)

To see an illustrated registry restore procedure

[http://www.silentrunners.org/sr\\_erdntuse.html](http://www.silentrunners.org/sr_erdntuse.html)

This program is one of the best things around – saved my butt on many occasions, and will also run very nicely from a DOS prompt (in case you've done something that won't let you boot any more and need to revert to a previous Registry) IF you're FAT32 OR have a DOS startup disk with NTFS write drivers in an NTFS system. (There is also a way using the Recovery Console to get back to being "bootable" even without separate DOS write NTFS drivers, after which you can do a normal ERDNT restore. See erunt.txt for detailed instructions. Basically, if you make your backup into a folder inside your Windows or Winnt folder, you can restore at a Recovery Console boot by copying the files from that ERDNT folder into the system32\config folder. After a good boot, then do another normal ERDNT restore to also restore the user hives also. See below for more detail about doing Recovery. (BTW, it also includes a Registry defragger program). Free, and very, very highly recommended.

FYI, quoting from the above document:

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Note: The "Export registry" function in Regedit is USELESS (!) to make a complete backup of the registry. Neither does it export the whole registry (for example, no information from the "SECURITY" hive is saved), nor can the exported file be used later to replace the current registry with the old one. Instead, if you re-import the file, it is merged with the current registry, leaving you with an absolute mess of old and new registry keys.

### Recovery:

You can only do a normal restore (as an 'outside of Windows' recovery) from a DOS boot if your file system is FAT32 OR you have NTFS drivers.

However, you can do a partial restore to get back to being bootable by using the Recovery Console if you've installed it, and then do a full restore. (BTW, remember to re-install the Recovery Console if you slipstream any of your SP's into a local i386 folder.)

Essentially, the approach is to put the ERDNT folder(s) where your nightly ERUNT is saved inside %SystemRoot% and then use the Recovery Console to first back up the existing hives in %SystemRoot%\System32\Config and then replace them with the ones from an appropriate ERDNT folder. This won't restore the User hives, but will let you boot so that you can then do a normal ERDNT restore of all hives. You can do it manually or you can automate the process by using a batch regcopy1.txt command in Recovery Console where regcopy1.txt contains something like (in this case E:\ is the %SystemRoot% for my Win2kProSP4 system, and I save to both a Temp folder and a nightly named folder each night. Here I'm just using the Temp which will have the last night's save in it.):

```
md tmp
copy e:\winnt\system32\config\system e:\winnt\tmp\system.bak
copy e:\winnt\system32\config\software e:\winnt\tmp\software.bak
copy e:\winnt\system32\config\sam e:\winnt\tmp\sam.bak
copy e:\winnt\system32\config\security e:\winnt\tmp\security.bak
copy e:\winnt\system32\config\default e:\winnt\tmp\default.bak

delete e:\winnt\system32\config\system
delete e:\winnt\system32\config\software
delete e:\winnt\system32\config\sam
delete e:\winnt\system32\config\security
delete e:\winnt\system32\config\default

copy e:\winnt\ERDNT\Temp\system e:\winnt\system32\config\system
copy e:\winnt\ERDNT\Temp\software e:\winnt\system32\config\software
copy e:\winnt\ERDNT\Temp\sam e:\winnt\system32\config\sam
copy e:\winnt\ERDNT\Temp\security e:\winnt\system32\config\security
copy e:\winnt\ERDNT\Temp\default e:\winnt\system32\config\default
```

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See: <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb:en-us:307545> (Be very careful about your specific system's ERUNT naming conventions which can depend upon just how your backup was saved, manually vs. a scheduled task.)

As to your other comment – I think you've experienced very good luck and/or are very careful in using such cleaners if you haven't had a bad experience. We see a constant stream of screwed up Registries because of them, and I don't think I know of an MVP who will recommend their use. YMMV, however.

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Regards, Jim Byrd, MS–MVP  
My, Blog Defending Your Machine, here:  
<http://defendingyourmachine.blogspot.com/>

"ag" <ag@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
<news:D3BCED41-C12B-4AA9-85B0-C2DA5BC374FA@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
> it's been awhile so forgive the question: i assume you create the text  
> file in notepad on a floppy, then while in the recovery console  
> switch to the a: drive and type the "batch" command?  
>  
> "kurttrail" wrote:  
>  
>> ag wrote:  
>>> i have read this article  
>>> See "How to Recover from a Corrupted Registry"  
>>> (<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=307545>).  
>>>  
>>> any help on how to put together a and run the batch file to automate  
>>> step 2?  
>>>  
>>> sorry it this is a duplicate...i first posted a reply to an earlier  
>>> thread because i could not get the new new post window to open  
>>  
>> "If you have access to another computer, to save time, you can copy  
>> the text in step two [actually should be step five], and then create  
>> a text file called "Regcopy1.txt" (for example). To create this  
>> file, run the following command when you start in Recovery Console:  
>> batch regcopy1.txt"  
>>  
>> "With the batch command in Recovery Console, you can process all the  
>> commands in a text file sequentially. When you use the batch command,  
>> you do not have to manually type as many commands."  
>>  
>> USE NOTEPAD TO COPY THE COMMANDS, AND SAVE THE TEXT FILE.  
>>  
>> —  
>> Peace!  
>> Kurt  
>> Self-anointed Moderator  
>> microscum.pubic.windowsexp.gonorrhea

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- >> <http://microscum.com/mscommunity>
- >> "Trustworthy Computing" is only another example of an Oxymoron!
- >> "Produkt-Aktivierung macht frei"

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• **References:**

- ◆ **Corrupt Registry**
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  - ◆ **Re: Corrupt Registry**
    - ◇ From: kurtrail
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