

Re: Clearing Entries from the Run command dropdown list

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2006-05/msg07729.html>

- *From:* Rctfreak
 - *Date:* Sun, 21 May 2006 09:17:49 -0500
-

That is not the list the OP is trying to clear.

That just clears the most recent used programs list on the start menu. The OP is wanting to clear the list that shows up when you click on "Run" in the start menu.

Easiest Way to clear the "Run" list is to clear IE's History.

On Sat, 20 May 2006 17:47:01 -0700, Brad K.
<BradK@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

This time for sure! Proper steps to clear RUN drop-down box entries:

1. Right click on any blank space on the taskbar
2. Left click on Properties
3. Left click on the "Start Menu" tab at top
4. Left click on "Customize" box
5. Left click on the "Clear List" box

"neville@xxxxxxxx" wrote:

I have a problem clearing the entries in the "Run" command dropdown list. Please bear with me while I explain the problem as I am very new to Windows.

I find that there are entries other than commands on this list. They are file path names and URLs. A typical file name entry looks like

file:///F:/workdir/fileset/set1.zip

My F drive corresponds to an Imogea Zip drive. The URL entries are just plain URLs. I also have entries corresponding to filesystems that I mounted on drives and have then unmounted

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using Cygwin. (Perhaps this is important in that file operations done within Cygwin are conveyed to wherever the file names are stored.)

Googling around I found the usual advice regarding IE:
"Did you try going to control panel, internet options and deleting all cookies history and temp files..."

Well, I have not used IE since day one as the first thing I did was download Firefox and it is the only browser that I have used. But, I followed the advice to no avail.

I also found the following advice at Annoyances.org

1. Run the Registry Editor (REGEDIT.EXE).
2. Open HKEY_CURRENT_USER\ Software\ Microsoft\ Windows\ CurrentVersion\ Explorer\ RunMRU\.
3. Delete all of the values in this key (everything in the right pane, except for (Default)).
4. Close the Registry Editor when finished. You'll probably have to refresh the Desktop or restart Windows for this change to take effect.

Needless to say, this does NOT work. The file path names and URLs are still there. (Several replies to the above message indicate that this is not a complete fix.)

I also installed TweakUI. Even though I did as advised (Go to Explorer and turn out Clear document history on exit), this does not clear the file and URL entries that I see even though the description claims the the document history *and* the "run dialog history, and typed-URL history" will be cleared on logoff.

I seems that file names and paths are stored other than in the RunMRU key. As the Run command list is so cluttered, I would much obliged if someone can give me a pointer out of this problem.

I run WindowsXP on a Dell (standard installation from Dell).
Microsoft Windows XP
Home Edition
Version 2002
Service Pack 2

Please be detailed in your advice as I am a Windows novice.

Thanks

np

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