

# Re: Forcing order of launch of systray programs

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- *From:* "Wesley Vogel" <[123WVogel955@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:123WVogel955@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
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It's called the registry.

Execution Order for starting programs

With Windows XP, There are 13+ places that programs can start from and they are executed in the following order:

Before Logon

- 1) HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunServicesOnce
- 2) HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunServices

After Logon

- 3) HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunOnce\Setup
- 4) HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunOnce
- 5) HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunOnceEx
- 6) WIN.INI [Windows] Load
- 7) WIN.INI [Windows] Run
- 8) HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
- 9) HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
- 10) C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Start Menu\Programs\Startup  
or %allusersprofile%\Start Menu\Programs\Startup
- 11) C:\Documents and Settings\Your Name Here\Start Menu\Programs\Startup  
or %userprofile%\Start Menu\Programs\Startup
- 12) HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunOnce
- 13) As a Scheduled Task set to run at startup.

[[Startups in groups 6 to 11 all run at the same time (more or less). However, the groups themselves are triggered in the order shown above. In other words, the next group can begin launching while the previous group is still loading its startups. Due to timing issues it is impossible to say what order these items will finish loading, thus it is impossible to predict the exact order of execution for individual startups. For instance, you may notice two or more system tray icons changing position with each boot – even when no changes have been made to the order.]]

[[The order of items within a group is not necessarily the final order, as

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some programs take longer than others to load, and synchronous groups can overlap each other.]]

Items in 10 and 11 execute alphanumerically. You can change the order in 10 and 11 by moving the items from 11 to 10. Also, you can rename the shortcuts in 10 and/or 11.

For example; dfg.exe, fgh.exe and ghj.exe would start in that order. To change the order rename the shortcuts to 1ghj.exe, 2dfg.exe and 3fgh.exe. They would then start in that order.

Some items are a race every time as to which actually starts first, no matter what you do.

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Hope this helps. Let us know.

Wes  
MS-MVP Windows Shell/User

In [news:erjGqoXRHHA.3812@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:erjGqoXRHHA.3812@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx),  
Rien <rien@xxxxxxxx> hunted and pecked:

Hello

I have several programs launched at startup and shown in systray :  
antivirus, firewall, etc : they are recorded in the register base.

The problem is that they are never launched in the same order. They seem to be launched at random. When the antivirus is launched in last position, the Windows security center warns me there is no antivirus; it's probably because the security center is launched before the antivirus. I don't think it's very serious, but it's annoying.

The question : How can I force the order of launch and place the antivirus first.

My configuration : WXP SP2 Media center, Kasperski antivirus, ZoneAlarm Pro firewall.

Thank you

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