

Re: For those running low on disk space...

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2007-09/msg04462.html>

- *From:* "Pegasus \ (MVP)" <I.can@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 22 Sep 2007 12:22:51 +0200
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"John" <greenjungle2007-behappy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx(emailaddress)> wrote in message news:DD3D53E7-D7FD-4721-A37B-0F967006E0E2@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

If you use Windows XP, and have a lot of files, this might help remove some junk files on your system.

Now first, I found a similiar document at AumHa, but I am not breaking copyright. I did not copy and paste. So, if you did read the AumHa forums, don't read this and post "There is one here".

So first, let's go through the files.

In the WINDOWS folder, there is another folder called Prefetch. You may have several files in this folder, or, if you changed this setting, just two.

So, get in there, and delete ALL of it. Don't worry, I have done this many times and nothing has happened yet. I recommend doing this once a month.

The 'Q' switch is not required, so you can take this out if you want. You may see a slight performance decrease next time you boot your computer, but after that it will be back to normal.

So, after that, go to C:\Documents and Settings\<Your_Username>\Local Settings\Temp and delete everything.

Remember these are temporary only, so they were going to be deleted anyway.

For those who want to just make a program to run every few days, here is the batch file script:

```
DEL /Q C:\WINDOWS\Prefetch\*.*
```

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```
DEL /Q "C:\Documents and settings\username\Local Settings\Temp\*.*)"
```

Where 'username' is the name of your user account.

Alright, so that is done, now to remove some Windows components.

Open Control Panel, go to Classic View, and double click on Add/Remove Programs.

Click on "Add/Remove Windows Components".

Here is what you should see.

Accessories and Utilities

* Accessories

I recommend you just keep this.

* Games

Not really required, unless you like to get stuck into some bugged game that had more easter eggs than you think. But they can be fun.

Hint: Stuck when playing Solitaire? Press Alt+Shift+2 – You Win!

Indexing Service

Now just think about this. Do you really need it? Only if you frequently search for files, which I don't assume.

Internet Explorer

Just leave this as it is, unless you are using Firefox or another browser.

Management and Monitoring Tools

Used for monitoring networks. Unless you have a network, turn it off.

MSN Explorer

Oh, that thing. Unless you do a lot of things on the Microsoft Network, uninstall it.

Networking Services

The "Internet Gateway Device Discovery and Control Client" should be selected.

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Peer-to-Peer is used for Wireless Networking. You know what to do.

If you don't need an RIP Listener to "listen for route updates that use Routing Information Protocol version 1 (RIPv1)", leave the RIP Listener to RIP!

Update Root Certificates

Leave it – don't hurt it.

The rest is all for you to decide.

Now for the last one.

Close the Windows Components Wizard. Go back to Add/Remove Programs and uninstall all programs that you don't need anymore.

You can get much more disk space by doing this.
So, that is basically all I know. If anyone has a suggestion, I'm listening.

John.

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The light at the end of the tunnel, is the sign of success.

A few comments:

a) On the average machine your recipes will free up perhaps 1 GByte of disk space. Since most PCs these days have disks of 60 . . 200 GBytes, 1 GByte won't make much of a difference.

b) While deleting the Prefetch folder won't do any damage, it will slow down the machine for a while. This folder contains a copy of the files that you use frequently. Windows loads them automatically in order to have them ready when you need them. It's like having your tools nicely laid out on the workbench instead of locking them away each time after use.

c) You omitted one big (and hidden!) user of disk space: System Restore. You can free up lots of disk space by reducing the number of restore points. Of course this means that you can no longer go back quite as far as before.

If someone runs out of disk space then it's usually because of large numbers of picture or music files. Your recipes won't help them but buying a larger disk will. They cost surprisingly little!

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