

## Re: Problems cropping up: reinstall XP?

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- *From:* Andrew <[Andrew.R.Wilcox@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Andrew.R.Wilcox@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 17 Dec 2007 14:03:28 -0800 (PST)
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On Dec 17, 4:51 pm, paullie <[paul...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:paul...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

1) The harddrive continues to be continuously accessed for at least 5 minutes into the desktop, during which time no icons can open related links. Eventually they work. I assume this is McAfee doing it's thing, but the wait time is getting longer and the HD is getting older.

I have no idea what could cause this. I've seen a Windows 2000 box with McAfee provided by Comcast have the same symptom, though.

2) I'm using IE 6 with the Google toolbar. Every time I open it I get big, fullpage ads from different sites. I click them off but after a while new ones start appearing. Makes IE a PIA to try to use. Also getting popups suggesting I download no-name 'spyware' and 'malware' removal tools.

This is a classic sign of "adware". You can attempt to install "SpyBot" or "Ad-Aware SE" to attempt to remove it.

3) I use CCleaner to keep the Cookie file clean of unwanted junk, but cookies from the IE6 ads don't clear when cleaner run. I had to remove a McAfee cookie (which is not on the CCleaner's 'do-not-remove cookie' list) to remove the others manually.

4) Most troubling, I have several restore points set, and when I run System Restore, it goes thru the process, then gives a message that the installation failed due to incomplete data. Of the 4-5 dates, none will work. Today I tried to use IE to access this site, and when trying to enter this message it wouldn't go to the message page. Had to logon to AOL to write this.

I'm thinking about saving all my data files to external, then just reformatting and re-installing XP. Is this the reasonable thing to do? After 3-4 checkup tools, the problems keep getting worse. I need some input! Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance.

Best, Paul

## Re: Problems cropping up: reinstall XP?

I believe the best resolution is to save data and reformat. This has happened to one of my clients, so much so as to where there were pop-ups in Safe Mode. The only resolution, short of weeks of manual removal (which may prove futile if there are enough shell hooks), is a re-installation.

Andrew

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