

Re: Unusual file properties

Source:

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- *From:* "... et al." <look@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 26 Dec 2007 14:14:19 +0100
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Miguel wrote:

"Patrick Keenan" wrote:

"Miguel" wrote:

When browsing generally, as one does, looking at files within folders on my C drive, I keep coming across files which are listed as 'video CD movie files', but are not such files. If I right click and highlight 'open with', I am given the choice of opening them with 'Nero Show Time' or 'Winamp'. I have both these on my system. Alternatively, I could chose another program that would play video CD movies, eg Windows Media Player. I have tried playing one or two of these files, but all I get are random noises.

Here's an example. I had reason to look in 'Documents and settings'. File path C:\Documents and settings\All users and there in this folder is such a file with the file name 'ntuser' But they are everywhere. What program creates them? why are they there? what use are they?

Does anybody know? Does anybody care?

" ntuser" is actually "ntuser.dat", and it is a key Windows file. It's the User portion of the registry hive.

Re: Unusual file properties

There is one for each user account on the system.

You should not play with this file.

Thank you for your post.

In the folder I was referring to there IS a ntuser.dat file which I took to be a system file which I do not intend to play with.

In reply to another post from sgopus, which you might read, I mention that I suspect Iolo System Mechanic as a possible culprit program that creates these files. My second suspect is AVG (Grisoft) Antivirus. There is a rather large one in their Documents and settings folder.

I still think this is an unusual phenomenon.

Control Panel : Folder Options : View : Advanced settings :

(Checkbox) 'Hide extensions for known file types'

Leaving it at its 'checked' dangerous default will cause you to think that;

'ntuser.dat' is actually named 'ntuser',

'ntuser.dat.log' is actually named 'ntuser.dat',

and that

'PrettyPicture.jpg.exe' is actually named 'PrettyPicture.jpg' and thus you are led to believe that it is a picture you want to view, while in fact it might be a malware virus or perhaps just a harmless prank.

Stop letting WinXP play these mindgames on you and uncheck the checkbox for 'Hide extensions for known file types'.

—

I'mHarmless.jpg .exe

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