

## Re: Explorer.exe @ 100% CPU usage?

**Source:**

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support/2004-08/4159.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2004-08/4159.html)

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**Date:** 08/14/04

Date: Sat, 14 Aug 2004 03:31:33 -0000

I got it too one night on both my laptop (XP Home) and desktop (XP Pro) simultaneously while crashing the internal network (computers couldn't see each other) but leaving the internet gateway open. Got a suggestion that helped and it was all caused by one file. Now, this file was acting funny... an MPEG of a TV show I captured a while ago, sitting on the physical drive of the desktop. From the laptop, across the network, I tried to move it to a different folder. I was told "access denied, another user or program has control blah blah" but nothing else was using it. Then the laptop went to 100% on explorer.exe and started running about 200 page faults per second. After a few minutes it was over 250,000 page faults!

I went to the desktop, opened up windows explorer to the media file and tried to change the security settings to take full control of it, but got the same message and same result. I thought virus and had all PCs on the network scan but got nothing 3 hours later.

Per advice to another user, I shut down everything, booted into the desktop into safe mode and just deleted the TV show MPEG. Turned on all and it was all good. I think there was some cache problem with that file and it caused explorer to loop endlessly. I reason that any damaged file may cause a similar loop, so troubleshooting could be a nightmare but if you can isolate it it may help.

> *I had this problem with iexplore and explorer running 100%.*  
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