

Re: .exe files won't initialize—on desktop or through start button

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2004-12/7713.html

From: Scott (*Scott_at_discussions.microsoft.com*)

Date: 12/25/04

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I was able to load both the "fixes" recommended by Nutcase in the command prompt in safe mode. Unfortunately neither helped my problems. Just for posterity sake the 3 windows updates I downloaded before I started having problems were:KB885836,KB873339,KB885835. I don't know if those caused this or not but I'm hoping you guys have some more ideas to try. I'm also wondering if getting my system restore to work would fix this and why thats not working.

"Ramesh [MVP]" wrote:

```
> Scott,
>
> Meanwhile, try this:
>
> Click Start/Run and type "Command.com"
> Type REGEDIT in Command Prompt.
> Click File, Import and select the .exe reg fix that you've d/loaded and unzipped, and merge it.
>
> If you're still unable to launch REGEDIT.EXE, try this from Command Prompt (command.com)
>
> cd\windows
> copy regedit.exe regedit.com
> start regedit.com [or regedit.com]
>
> --
> Ramesh, Microsoft MVP
> Windows XP Shell/User
> http://windowsxp.mvps.org
>
>
> "Scott" <Scott@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
news:B4298D0B-9744-491A-803F-5197F63D5B24@microsoft.com...
> I really appreciate the help "NutCase". I found the file you were speaking
> of but when it tried to run I got the same error I've been getting all along
> because it was trying to use regedit.exe apparently to apply the fix.
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microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support: Re: .exe files won't initialize—on desktop or through start button

> Again thanks and Merry Christmas. If you got any other ideas let me know.
>
>
> "Rick "Nutcase" Rogers" wrote:
>
>> Hi,
>>
>> Try the .exe file association fix at www.dougknox.com under WinXP Fixes/file
>> association fixes.
>>
>> --
>> Best of Luck,
>>
>> Rick Rogers, aka "Nutcase" – Microsoft MVP
>> <http://mvp.support.microsoft.com/>
>> Associate Expert – WindowsXP Expert Zone
>> www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone
>> Windows help – www.rickrogers.org
>>
>> "Scott" <Scott@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
>> news:7DF2B2E7-E613-431B-92E3-C2F4D89A068A@microsoft.com...
>>> I posted this a little earlier and thought I'd explain it hopefully a bit
>>> clearer. I believe last night after I had downloaded and installed 3
>>> windows
>>> security updates (not sp 2) something started going wrong before I
>>> restarted
>>> the computer. I presently cannot get any program to work. The error
>>> message I
>>> get has the .exe file I'm trying to use with application error next to it
>>> then below it says "The application failed to initialize properly
>>> (0xc0000142). Click OK to terminate the application. I am able to open
>>> folders
>>> on the desktop but shortcuts merit this error message. I would list the
>>> updates I downloaded but I'm unable to get anything that uses rundll32.exe
>>> to
>>> work like the Add/Remove Programs. Also system restore cannot restore my
>>> computer to any point no matter if I'm logged in as admin or anyone else
>>> or
>>> any time I choose. The only programs I can use are the ones that are
>>> loaded
>>> from the system tray like my DSL support tool that gives me internet
>>> access
>>> after checking my connection.
>>
>>
>>
>