

Re: Explorer doesn't start anymore

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-12/msg00881.htm

- *From:* "Wesley Vogel" <123WVogel955@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 4 Dec 2006 08:22:15 -0700
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UPDATE your antivirus software and run a full system scan.

UPDATE whatever anti-spyware applications that you have and run a full system scan with each one.

You might want to start in Safe Mode to run your antivirus and anti-spyware software.

Running a full system antivirus scan or anti-spyware scan in Safe Mode can be a good idea. Some viruses and other malware like to conceal themselves in areas Windows protects while using them. Safe mode will prevent those applications access and therefore unprotect the viruses or other malware allowing for easier removal.

How to start Windows in Safe Mode Windows XP

<http://www.bleepingcomputer.com/forums/index.php?showtutorial=61#winxo>

msconfig.exe is the System Configuration Utility and you can use it for troubleshooting startup.

See these topics in System Configuration Utility HELP:

- To create a clean environment for troubleshooting
- To isolate problems using Selective Startup options
- To isolate problems using system startup options
- To isolate problems using the Startup tab
- Identifying problems using system file tabs

For System Configuration Utility HELP...

Paste the following line into Start | Run and click OK...

hh msconfig.chm::/msconfig_usage.htm

Or just open msconfig and click on the Help button.

Or %windir%\Help\msconfig.chm

Or you can see the same articles online here...

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System Configuration Utility overview

http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/windows/xp/all/proddocs/en-us/msconfig_usage.mspx

You can try disabling half of the startup entries, reboot and see if you still have whatever problem.

After rebooting, if you do not have whatever problem, you have narrowed it down to that half of the disabled items. Depending on how many startups you have, you can re-enable some and reboot. Or re-enable one item at a time and reboot. Keep doing one or the other until you have found the culprit.

After rebooting, if you still have whatever problem after disabling the first half of the startup items, re-enable that half and disable the second half and reboot. Depending on how many startups you have, you can re-enable some and reboot. Or re-enable one item at a time and reboot. Keep doing one or the other until you have found the culprit.

Do NOT use msconfig to change your services.

Use services.msc *NOT* msconfig.exe!

Start | Run | Type: services.msc | Click OK

Why can't I use msconfig to change my services?

[[The reason is because with msconfig and Hardware Profiles, you can disable services that may be vital to boot your system. With the management console (services.msc) you cannot. Also, msconfig, while unchecking the box, is disabling the service.

The "Disable All" button also scares me. It should not even be there as no reason exists to justify disabling "everything."]]

Why can't I use msconfig to change my services?

<http://web.archive.org/web/20041128011231/www.blackviper.com/AskBV/XP25.htm>

How to Troubleshoot By Using the Msconfig Utility in Windows XP

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/310560>

How to perform a clean boot in Windows XP

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/310353>

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Hope this helps. Let us know.

Wes

MS-MVP Windows Shell/User

In news:0CD347F3-092C-4316-9671-C87F89DD6067@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx,

Mat <Mat@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> hunted and pecked:

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Hi Wesley,

thanks for the reply. Unfortunately I didn't have luck with these steps.

I can boot in safe mode and log on. This works fine. Under the user Administrator I created a new user account (also an administrator) and rebooted, this time in normal mode. It didn't change the problem I'm having.

I also used the "Taskbar missing"-script under a safe-mode administrator. But it didn't help as well.

Strangely, if I boot in normal mode log on as an administrator and see the background picture, I can open the task manager and can choose File->Open and search for executable programs. If I search under "office" (? don't know the correct phrase for that in the english version of XP) for programs the taskbar reappears but everything is extremely slow/frozen and there's only action if I try to look under "office" – and then also not much. I cannot even see the contents of office.

Would it help if I go back with a system restore? Are registry keys also restored? Unfortunately my last backup is quite a while ago. I can't imagine what has been screwed up, since I only granted write access and took it away after executing RegMon from Sysinternals and the dictionary I tried to get to run.

Would be very grateful for further assistance,
Mat

"Wesley Vogel" wrote:

This behavior can occur if the Windows settings for a particular user account are corrupted.

Taskbar Is Missing When You Log On to Windows
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/318027>

Also...

[[To use the VBS Files: Download .vbs file and save it to your hard drive (you may want to right click and use Save Target As). Double click the vbs file. You will be prompted when the script is done.]]

Taskbar is Missing
http://www.kellys-korner-xp.com/regs_edits/xp_taskbar_desktop_fixall.vbs

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Hope this helps. Let us know.

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MS-MVP Windows Shell/User

In
news:C57A1C9F-CE96-48B3-B624-B458C3B1448A@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx,
Mat <Mat@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> hunted and pecked:

Hi,

I've got a big problem, because I can't access any program anymore (except the task manager).

What I did: I was working under a user with limited rights (Windows XP Media Center Edition) and tried to get to run a program under such an account. After giving special rights to the group, that this user belongs, for specific keys (which RegMon showed me) I granted this group rights for all of the Root_Classes and HKLM in the registry (while being logged on as limited user, regedit being executed with administrator-rights). This didn't help so I took away the rights again and logged off. After that time I can log in but nothing starts. The only thing I see is the background picture and the only process that starts is explorer (I can see that in task manager), but the task bar doesn't show up, and nothing else as well.

I would be so grateful for any help, that doesn't say install everything again from new.

Best,
Mat