

Re: "Windows cannot access the specified device, path, or file..."

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support/2008-01/msg00040.htm](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2008-01/msg00040.htm)

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- *From:* "Mark L. Ferguson" <[marfer\\_mvp@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:marfer_mvp@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 1 Jan 2008 06:01:13 -0600
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HOW TO Reset Security Settings Back to the Defaults:

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb:en-us:313222>

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Mark L. Ferguson

e-mail subject line must include "QZ" or it's deleted

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"Gary English" <[GaryEnglish@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:GaryEnglish@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:EF287D2E-90B0-462C-A4C7-E3BF19EC3A71@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:EF287D2E-90B0-462C-A4C7-E3BF19EC3A71@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I have deleted Windows Installer and successfully downloaded and installed  
a  
newer version.

Subsequently, I have followed Aaron's instructions to the letter...

And I STILL have the same message whenever I try to open any program  
files,  
Windows Update, etc:

"Windows cannot access the specified file, path or device. You may not  
have  
the appropriate permissions..."

A colleague suggested it may be caused by a Worm which has control of the  
registry files although nothing shows in any scans...

The same friend is pushing me to buy MacBookPro...hmmm...

"Mark L. Ferguson" wrote:

Your installer needs some kind of fix.

How to resolve Common Windows Installer Problems:

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/555175/en-us>

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Mark L. Ferguson

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"Gary English" <Gary.English@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

[news:51D8FCB6-F35C-466F-9178-FCB2BDC511FF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:51D8FCB6-F35C-466F-9178-FCB2BDC511FF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hi Mark,

I am somewhat computer "illiterate" but I found your posts via a search.

I have the same problem trying to open any program files, Windows Updates, etc...same message continually appears.

My system is Windows XP Home Edition.

I followed the instructions written by Aaron Stebner but when I attempt to "run" the downloaded file SubInACL.exe, I get the following error message:

"Windows Installer – The feature you are trying to use is on a network resource that is unavailable. Click OK to try again, or enter an alternate path to a folder containing the installation package "subinacl.msi" in the box below:"

The "box below" shows Desktop as the only location. When I browse the Windows files I do not see a folder called "WindowsResource Kits\Tools" anywhere on my system.

I saved the downloaded file to the folder "Downloaded Installations" in any event, but when I click the file to run it, I get the same exact message as above.

Re: "Windows cannot access the specified device, path, or file..."

When I click OK, the following message appears:

"The installation source for this product is not available.  
Verify that  
the  
source exists and that you can access it."

I am frustrated beyond measure and would greatly appreciate  
any and all  
pertinent advice.

Kind regards,

Gary English  
Abu Dhabi, UAE

"Mark L. Ferguson" wrote:

Aaron Stebner's WebLog Solving setup  
errors by using the SubInACL tool  
to  
repair file and registry permissions:  
<http://blogs.msdn.com/astebner/archive/2006/09/04/739820.aspx>

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helpful? click "Yes" button. Voting helps the  
web interface.

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone/newsgroups/reader.msp?dg=micro>  
Mark L. Ferguson

"RRG" wrote:

When I try to run  
executables, dos prompt,  
regedit, control panel,  
anything... I get the  
following message.

"Windows cannot access the  
specified device, path, or  
file. You may

Re: "Windows cannot access the specified device, path, or file..."

not  
have  
the appropriate permission  
to access the item"

I am running XP Home,  
(SP2). I am an administrator  
user and I have  
tried  
system restore to a previous  
date with no success.

I have run system restore in  
safe mode, it completes but  
does not  
solve  
the  
problem.

I am using PCCillin from  
TrendMicro and it reports  
that I have no  
threats  
found. I believe that I may  
have had a virus that  
changed  
something,  
and  
though PCCillin has cleaned  
the virus, the problem has  
been left  
behind.