

Re: XP SP3 install and problems afterwards

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http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2008-09/msg00037.htm

- *From:* Roberto <Roberto@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 1 Sep 2008 20:23:07 -0700
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The web page at <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/950717> provided the solution I used Method 3.

"Shenan Stanley" wrote:

<snipped>

James Silverton wrote:

I disagree with the notion that I should have to do background reading for what was downloaded by MS as an "update". I have updating set to download but only to install when I say so. That was the situation for this SP3 stuff. If Microsoft considers certain programs like virus detection should be switched off, they should say so. They should not expect a person whose main use is Office tasks and the Internet to read up on things that seem to be like "nailing jelly to a tree!" in their use of jargon. Security suites are not frills and should be expected to be present.

I have gone to "Add and remove programs" and don't see signs of anything after 8/15/08, ie. before the last download. As far as SP2 is concerned, it is a mysterious addition to XP that was on my machine when I bought it so there has been no need to find out about it.

As Bob Lucas suggests, I may go the Tools/Windows update/Custom Update route but only when I am fully awake and have lots of time.

As for having to read up on the updates – although I agree it should not be necessary, it is only because there are millions upon millions of possible combinations that make up a computer. Every computer is unique. If they were all the same (hardware wise and driver-revision wise and such) and running the same OS with the same programs and the same user accounts and the same everything else... Different story.

What each person has done by using a computer the way they intended is create their own microcosm. Only they can know (and in most cases – they do

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not) what all they have done, installed, uninstalled, tried, not tried, pushed in too hard, mismatched, overloaded, overclocked, underclocked, replaced and maintained/not maintained on their computer.

Most people will load SP3 and likely never know they did anything (or they won't do anything and it will just be loaded) and they will go along their happy lives – oblivious to the inner-workings. Some will have some 'just wrong' combination of things that causes a hiccup. It is *their* combination/doing – or those from whom they purchased the system or those who configured it for them.

I do not know how many thousands of computers I have put SP3 on at this point. I do know that I have only had a handful of problems. "Access Denied"... One HP with AMD processor and an image made from a machine with an Intel processor. A few with the 'updates download but do not install' after the fact (my bad – should have rebooted before installing SP3.)

I have not had a single Windows XP (32bit) system that I have not been able to put SP3 onto yet. Those few required a little research – and in response to that – I now *prepare* before I start to install SP3 just so I don't have to troubleshoot later.

– Does virus protection *have* to be turned off? I have not had that be the case in any of my installations yet.

– Do you *have* to reboot right before installing SP3? I have had cases where it worked out fine without the reboot.

– Do you have to update hardware drivers? Do you have to CHKDSK/defrag? Do you have to scan with Antivirus/Antispyware? Do you have to uninstall unused applications? Do you have to backup your important files/folders? Had the SP3 installation onto Windows XP work without any/most/some of those being done.

Is it *wise* to do most of that? Should you be doing many of those things regardless of what you are/are not installing? I think so. It's just like getting the oil changed in your car, taking out your garbage, washing the dishes, cutting the grass... It's the cost of ownership...and although you can go so long without doing any of it – given none of it is difficult – you may just be oiling the trigger on the gun to shoot your own foot off by neglecting these things.

But... That's a 'to each their own' thing. Not my place to say what anyone else chooses to do. All I can present is what I would do and why...

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Shenan Stanley
MS-MVP

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How To Ask Questions The Smart Way
<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

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