

# Re: Compacting folders

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support/2008-12/msg02441.htm](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2008-12/msg02441.htm)

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- *From:* "Bruce Hagen" <[Nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 30 Dec 2008 08:41:25 -0800
- 

The Inbox, Sent Items and Deleted items are more prone to corruption than user created folders largely because they are accessed more often.

I disagree with the second statement. If the Inbox alone becomes corrupted, there is no reason to recover messages in the subfolders as they were not affected and their messages were not lost. Like I said. Every folder has its own dbx file regardless of how the folder tree is structured.

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Bruce Hagen  
MS-MVP Outlook Express  
Imperial Beach, CA

"Gerry" <[gerry@xxxxxxxx](mailto:gerry@xxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:eMoHiwpaJHA.4820@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:eMoHiwpaJHA.4820@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Bruce

Would you agree that non-system ( user created ) folders rarely corrupt? The exception would be excessively large files, which the system is struggling to handle.

The problem with sub-folders of the Inbox is that if the inbox corrupts then most users do not know how to recover the contents of the sub-folder.

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Gerry  
~~~~~  
FCA  
Stourport, England  
Enquire, plan and execute  
~~~~~

Bruce Hagen wrote:

I have to respectfully disagree with you. Bad1 is a subfolder of the

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Inbox and Bad2 is a subfolder of Bad1. If you look in the messages store there will be a Bad1.dbx file and a bad2.dbx file. They are not inside the Inbox and do not share the same dbx file.

I also respectfully disagree with Gerry. There is absolutely nothing wrong with having a subfolder located under /any/ OE folder, user created or default.

"CBoom" <someone@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:gjcs08\\$f89\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:gjcs08$f89$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

The OP may have subfolders of the Inbox with subfolders under those subfolders, but he cannot have a user created folder /inside/ the Inbox. Just can't be done.

I prefer to make things clear and simple for the OP to understand...

I made a simple image below

I don't know what you are saying the above, above because I can have

"a user created folder /inside/ the inbox" as you can see in the screenshot below

[http://farm4.static.flickr.com/3112/3149578867\\_9921b84820.jpg?v=0](http://farm4.static.flickr.com/3112/3149578867_9921b84820.jpg?v=0)

from the above screenshot the 2 folders there with names bad1 and bad2 is a bad strategy, since each of those share the same and single dbx file of the INBOX

while Good1 and Good2 each has its own dbx file and each dbx file has the 2gb limit. While the combined capacity of inbox+bad1+bad2 is only 2gb, the combined capacity of Inbox+good1+good2 is 6GB!

To the OP, you should organize your data as GOOD1 and GOOD2 since each of these have a separate dbx file, and not as BAD1 BAD2 since these share the same dbx file with the INBOX

and as I said there is a limit of 2 gb for the dbx files.. outlook just cant handle bigger size than than ...

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and again I must point out, by deleting emails or moving folders without compacting, you are NOT decreasing the size.

You have to compact after so that the dbx files shrink.

"Bruce Hagen" <Nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

[news:ebt78ajaJHA.684@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:ebt78ajaJHA.684@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I /did/ suggested a 100MB max, (my habit), as corruption usually occurs long before the 2GB limit is reached.

The OP may have subfolders of the Inbox with subfolders under those subfolders, but he cannot have a user created folder /inside/ the Inbox. Just can't be done.  
--

Bruce Hagen  
MS-MVP Outlook Express  
Imperial Beach, CA

"CBoom" <someone@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

[news:gjc784\\$cyj0\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:gjc784$cyj0$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Listen carefully because no one else is telling you these things!:

1) when the dbx = databases of outlook express reach 2gb in size then Outlook express crashes and you lose data!!

The way to avoid this is to make new folders along side the inbox and not INSIDE the inbox, that way each new folder will have

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its OWN  
database file  
(dbx) so more data will be  
spread out among more  
databases  
creating more stability!

2) after moving or even  
deleting emails from  
outlook express the  
DBX files  
**DO NOT SHRINK  
UNLESS YOU COMPACT  
THEM!**

even if you delete EVERY  
EMAIL the previous large  
size remains  
unless you  
compact them!

so do what I said in step 1,  
create new folders along  
side the  
inbox, outbox  
etc, and take the emails  
from the subfolders inside  
the inbox and  
place them  
there...

then compact everything!

You can back up your dbx  
folder BEFORE doing all  
this if you are  
afraid..

if you don't know how, post  
back and I will tell you!

"cajun\_mike"  
<cajun\_mike@  
qwest(DONOTSPAM).net>  
wrote in message  
[news:9D99BFFA-6F65-4536-B339-1EE903EDA17B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:9D99BFFA-6F65-4536-B339-1EE903EDA17B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I've reached  
the point  
where every

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time I exit  
OE I'm  
asked if I  
want to  
compact my  
folders to  
save space.  
The answer  
is, and will  
be,  
no. I have  
plenty of  
space, back  
up often,  
and run  
Outlook  
Express  
Quick  
Backup. No  
sweat.

How can I  
stop the  
program  
from  
repeatedly  
asking me if  
I want to  
back up  
the folders?

Thanks a  
million!

Mike