

Re: How to remove a networked PC?

## Re: How to remove a networked PC?

---

*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network\\_web/2007-04/msg00703.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.network_web/2007-04/msg00703.html)

---

- *From:* Chuck <none@xxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Wed, 25 Apr 2007 07:23:32 -0700
- 

On Wed, 25 Apr 2007 08:16:43 +0100, Terry Pinnell  
<terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Chuck <none@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Tue, 24 Apr 2007 10:38:58 +0100, Terry Pinnell  
<terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Chuck <none@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Mon, 23 Apr 2007 21:20:10 +0100,  
Terry Pinnell  
<terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote:

Chuck  
<none@xxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote:

Terry,

If you have  
performance  
problems,  
or even  
think that  
you have  
them, I  
would  
suggest that  
you start

Re: How to remove a networked PC?

with  
Process  
Explorer,  
and find out  
for a  
certainty  
what  
processes  
contribute  
to your  
problems.

<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2006/04/watching-what-your-computer-is-doing.html>  
<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2006/04/watching-what-your-computer-is-doing.html>

If your  
computer is  
running XP  
SP1, now,  
THAT  
could be  
part of your  
problem.

<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2006/08/if-you-have-windows-xp-with-slow-performance.html>  
<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2006/08/if-you-have-windows-xp-with-slow-performance.html>

Having  
done that,  
start  
malware  
analysis.

<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2005/05/dealing-with-malware-adware.html>  
<http://nitecruZR.blogspot.com/2005/05/dealing-with-malware-adware.html>

Thanks Chuck. I'll study  
those more closely  
tomorrow. Meanwhile, a  
few  
initial comments:

Should I have Process  
Explorer (procexp.exe)? I  
don't see it anywhere.

I do use Filemon, but find it  
mostly incomprehensible.

I'm fairly confident my  
performance problems are  
not malware related.  
I use several tools regularly,

Re: How to remove a networked PC?

like Spybot and AdAware.

Terry,

If I had to choose one diagnostic tool for my computer, it would be Process Explorer. It's linked from my article cited above.

OK, thanks Chuck, now downloaded it.

I'm guessing that you and Mark Russinovich are programmers? I'm not, and most of the output from PE is beyond me to interpret.

I tried an initial run of PE, with the application that's prompted my quest, Google Earth (GE). I'll assume for the moment that you're not familiar with it, as a little background is necessary to what follows.

GE runs fine here, \*except\* when I open a particular kind of file, a 'network link file'. That small 'shortcut type' file in turn then downloads a large amount of data from a particular server (to which the author has previously uploaded it), and it displays clever stuff in GE. (Such as global cloud cover.) When I run that, GE takes 95–99% of my CPU, as compared with no noticeable usage when doing other things.

In PE, both situations show GE taking the same 43 processes. With a network link open (or being opened – I'm never entirely sure it ever finishes!) – PE reports CPU as 95%, which I already knew from Task Manager (and the even more obvious fact that I could do virtually nothing on the PC).

Same goes for TCPView, which I've also downloaded, after studying your very readable article at <http://nitercruZR.blogspot.com/2005/05/essential-tools-for-desktop-and.html#ProcessExplorer> thank you.

Re: How to remove a networked PC?

How old is the computer that's having performance problems?

This Athlon 1800 1 GB is about 5 years old. It's the sheer hassle I anticipate in re-installing and re-tweaking that makes me put off my next purchase! Plus the fact that, by and large, this PC is doing pretty well. For example I make (encode and author) family DVDs, generally regarded as intensive work for any PC, and have no real problems. It's just the GE problem I described, plus sometimes very slow Explore operation (opening folders can occasionally take 30 secs) that frustrates me. Oh, and, if I'm honest, the occasional sudden crash. Like the one I had as I was finishing composing this reply a short while ago! Sudden black screen and a reboot. Something else to fret about ;-(

I'm saving this text regularly as I type...

How much free disk space does it have?

Main partition is D: is 178 GB and has 88.7 GB free. My OS partition is C:, which is 11.7 GB with 1.52 GB free. Other partitions are all OK.

Do you defrag regularly?

Nightly, with Diskkeeper in 'smart' mode.

Can you do a health check on the disk drive?

Used chkdsk /f on C: and D: a week or so ago, but I will do another.

## Re: How to remove a networked PC?

For a single computer, I'd investigate any performance problems in this order:

- 1) Malware.
- 2) Hardware.
- 3) Software.
- 4) Network.

Terry,

1) Excessive CPU use when running Google Earth. Google Earth is VERY CPU

intensive. IT's drawing a detailed map of the earth (or some portion of it). If you have enough bandwidth, the CPU drain from Google Earth could be massive.

2) When you open folders in Windows Explorer, observe what's in the folders. A

large number of files or folders, for instance, can take time.

Terry, any computer system will always max out on something, if it's not running

idle. Sometimes you'll notice the maxed out state, other times you'll be doing something else and won't notice. If you run GE, and your Internet service feeds

you data fast enough, you'll max out the CPU. If you have slow DSL, like I have, you'll max out on network (Internet) traffic before you max out the CPU.

If you're typing, it's maxed out on the input (you).

You don't have to understand PE immediately. Just run it when you are using Task Manager, and look at the additional metrics that it gives you. Process Explorer simply has more metrics, for you to observe.

And no, I'm not a programmer. And the one time that I was in the room with Mark

Russinovich he was speaking to a crowd of several thousand and I was one listening.

Now the black screen and system restart we should investigate. But that's not a

network issue. This could have numerous causes. Details please.

# How often does it do this.

# Are you doing anything specific when it does this.

# Any specific time of day or day of week when this happens more often.

# Is the computer attached to a UPS?

<<http://nitecruzr.blogspot.com/2005/06/background-information-useful-in.html>>

<http://nitecruzr.blogspot.com/2005/06/background-information-useful-in.html>

<<http://nitecruzr.blogspot.com/2005/08/solving-network-problems-tutorial.html>>

<http://nitecruzr.blogspot.com/2005/08/solving-network-problems-tutorial.html>

Re: How to remove a networked PC?

<http://nitecruzr.blogspot.com/2005/05/protect-your-hardware-use-ups.html>  
<http://nitecruzr.blogspot.com/2005/05/protect-your-hardware-use-ups.html>

Thanks Chuck. I'll do some more methodical testing.

As for the crash (which does now take us well OT!), it's happened 3 times in the last fortnight. Can't point to any specific cause, or even now remember precisely what I was doing. No UPS. I rather suspect a monitor or graphics card hardware problem. I recently upgraded my 64MB NVidia Geforce2 MX/MX 400 drivers, but after reading that some users had stability problems I reverted to my 2 year old one.

It may be totally unrelated, but just in case it rings any bells for you... I recently posted in a couple of forums about over 100 invalid ActiveX/COM entries being reported by Norton WinDoctor, CCleaner, etc. (So far with no useful response.)

They mostly look like this:

Missing or Invalid Key: "DisplayServer.AppSettingsBasic"  
Problem ProgID, "DisplayServer.AppSettingsBasic," refers to an invalid ActiveX/COM entry,  
"{9B5EC720-9A44-4811-8B9F-24BD53F2050D}."

Missing or Invalid Key: "DisplayServer.AppSettingsBasic.1"  
Problem ProgID, "DisplayServer.AppSettingsBasic.1," refers to an invalid ActiveX/COM entry,

Missing or Invalid Key: "Video\_TVServer.VideoZoom"  
Problem ProgID, "Video\_TVServer.VideoZoom," refers to an invalid ActiveX/COM entry,  
"{D385E909-3F89-4ECD-B38F-AC11F9FE6F1C}."  
etc

But I am seem unable to Delete any of these, either with Norton or CCleaner.

As I say, longshot, but do you think it could have a bearing please?

They could have a relationship, Terry. They all appear to refer to display components. However, all of that is somewhat outside the scope of Windows Networking.

I suspect that you're now into the area where you would be best served by microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\_and\_support.

[http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone/newsgroups/reader.mspx?dg=microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone/newsgroups/reader.mspx?dg=microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support)  
[http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone/newsgroups/reader.mspx?dg=microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support](http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/expertzone/newsgroups/reader.mspx?dg=microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support)

---

Re: How to remove a networked PC?

Re: How to remove a networked PC?

Cheers,

Chuck, MS-MVP [Windows – Networking]

<http://nitecruzr.blogspot.com/>

Paranoia is not a problem, when it's a normal response from experience.

My email is AT DOT

actual address pchuck mvps org.

.