

Re: Search doesn't find some things

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.newusers/2006-06/msg00135.html>

- *From:* "Ramesh, MS-MVP" <ramesh@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 6 Jun 2006 23:34:01 +0530
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Hi Dave,

See:

Windows® XP – Search Problems – Containing Text:
http://www.dougknox.com/xp/tips/xp_bad_search.htm

Other options:

Follow "Method 2" in this article:
<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=309173>

Ref: "FilterFilesWithUnknownExtensions"

[Excerpt]

Method 2

To configure Windows XP to search all files no matter what the file type, obtain the latest service pack for Windows XP and then turn on the Index file types with unknown extensions option.

If you use this method, Windows XP searches all file types for the text that you specify. This can affect the performance of the search functionality. To do this: 1. Click Start, and then click Search (or point to Search, and then click For Files or Folders).

2. Click Change preferences, and then click With Indexing Service (for faster local searches).
3. Click Change Indexing Service Settings (Advanced). Note that you do not have to turn on the Index service.
4. On the toolbar, click Show/Hide Console Tree.
5. In the left pane, right-click Indexing Service on Local Machine, and then click Properties.
6. On the Generation tab, click to select the Index files with unknown extensions check box, and then click OK.
7. Close the Indexing Service console.

Warning Serious problems might occur if you modify the registry incorrectly by using Registry Editor or by using another method. These problems might require that you reinstall your operating system. Microsoft cannot guarantee

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that these problems can be solved. Modify the registry at your own risk.
Network administrators can configure this setting by modifying the registry.
To do this, set the FilterFilesWithUnknownExtensions DWORD value to 1 in the
following registry key:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\ContentIndex

[/Excerpt]

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Also read below the note from Torgeir Bakken:
<quote>

WinXP's search function filters out files to search in based on file
extensions (see further below).

Install the free Agent Ransack, it searches for text strings in *all*
types of files, and not just in a selection of "approved" file extensions
as the built-in search does. It's a *much* better search tool as well...

<http://www.agentransack.com/default.aspx>

Agent Ransack can save the search result to a file (or clipboard), as text,
comma separated text or tab separated text. E.g. Excel reads comma separated
text (csv) very well.

</quote>

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Regards,

Ramesh Srinivasan, Microsoft MVP [Windows XP Shell/User]
Windows® XP Troubleshooting <http://www.winhelponline.com>

"Dave" <djbahb@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:uMKt5PXiGHA.4716@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Often when I do search for a document which I know contains certain words or
phrases, the search routine does not find them. Even if I search the folder
I know the file is in it will not find it.

Any thoughts on why this might happen?

Dave

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