

Re: Removingr UNWISE.EXE from my XP Home Edition.

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Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform_maintain/2006-02/msg00318.htm

- *From:* "Wesley Vogel" <123WVogel955@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 14 Feb 2006 08:16:39 -0700
-

Why did I somehow know that wumply wouldn't be back.

Microsoft CDO for Windows 2000.

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Hope this helps. Let us know.

Wes

MS-MVP Windows Shell/User

In news:%23pONMwLMGHA.1424@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx,
Wesley Vogel <123WVogel955@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> hunted and pecked:

wumply,

See Richard Urban's post. ;-)

OK, I took about an hour typing this up this morning.

Let's take for an example, Ad-Aware SE Personal.

What happens if you delete the unwise.exe file from C:\Program Files\Lavasoft\Ad-Aware SE Personal?

From Lavasoft help....

<quote>

[[If you wish to remove our product, try these alternatives:

1. Click "uninstall Ad-Aware" in the Lavasoft folder of your start menu
 2. If it does not work, open your control panel, click add/remove programs and locate Ad-Aware SE
 3. If it still does not work, locate and run (double-click) the file "unwise.exe" (the .exe might not be shown). It should be found in C:\program files\Lavasoft\Ad-Aware SE Personal\
- <end quote>

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Okie dokie, here we go.

1. "uninstall Ad-Aware" is probably a shortcut to C:\Program Files\Lavasoft\Ad-Aware SE Personal\unwise.exe. The shortcut won't work because unwise.exe has been deleted.

2. Isn't going to work either because...

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\Ad-Aware SE Personal\UninstallString is going to point to C:\Program Files\Lavasoft\Ad-Aware SE Personal\unwise.exe and unwise.exe is not going to be there. I SWAGGED this, I uninstalled it a while back, but I bet that I am pretty close.

You can see how 3 isn't going to work, there is no unwise.exe to double click.

Then you'll have to post here and ask, "How do I uninstall Ad-Aware SE Personal?"

And someone will post something like these...

How to manually uninstall an application

http://www.cryer.co.uk/brian/windows/howto_manually_uninstall.htm

Uninstall Programs Manually

http://www.theeldergeek.com/manually_uninstall_programs.htm

Yes, Add or Remove Programs tells the program's own uninstaller to do so. That registry entry that was mentioned earlier...

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\some program\UninstallString

The value data for the UninstallString is the path to the program that is used to uninstall the program. UninstallString is what Add or Remove Programs looks for to uninstall a particular program. Some programs may not have an actual uninstaller. HijackThis.exe and WINZIP32.EXE, for example, both use an /uninstall switch.

Normally you need to use the original install/uninstall package to remove software. Wise/Unwise or whatever the software developer used. I figure that it's a low bid deal, whatever is cheapest.

unins000.exe is another one, related to the Inno installation service. Inno Setup is a free installer for Windows programs. uninstall.exe is another one, I don't know who makes that one.

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There are some third party uninstaller programs that are supposed to be able to remove anything. I know nothing about any of them.

spuninst.exe is another one, this is a Windows Service Pack Uninstaller.

msiexec.exe or the Windows Installer is another one. msiexec.exe uses an /uninstall switch, msiexec.exe has a boatload of switches.

*.msi files are Windows Installer Files or Windows Installer packages. Windows Installer can uninstall any program it previously installed. Windows Installer supposedly removes everything that it installed. I don't believe that myself.

Add or Remove Programs provides users with a single user interface for managing and maintaining their programs. The Currently installed programs list in the Add or Remove Programs tool lists all of the Windows-compatible programs that have an uninstall program or feature. As mentioned previously, UninstallString is the key deal. Windows Installer-based programs also include a Maintenance Mode option. With this option, you can add or remove features, change the installation state of the program or of individual components, or repair and restore the installation.

When software is installed, depending on the software, there are files installed on the machine that might be placed in %windir%\System32 folder, the Start Menu or anywhere besides the %programfiles% folder, all over the machine. Most software adds registry entries, Norton is a pig about this. Speaking of Norton, you need special uninstaller software to even begin to get rid of that sow.

Just look through an install.log to see what kind of things are added when a program is installed.

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Hope this helps. Let us know.

Wes
MS-MVP Windows Shell/User

In news:BEF15D43-2992-45F7-A6A3-227D529E20E8@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx, wumply <wumply@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> hunted and pecked:

"Wesley Vogel" wrote:

Can I safely remove all of these and then IF
I want to delete some
jprogram they were bundled with, just use
Add/Remove to uninstjall
that?

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No.

unwise.exe is an uninstallation package which comes bundled with products with the Wise installer.

If you remove the UNWISE.EXE from a program folder you will have a hard time trying to uninstall that program.

Read about the Unwise Wizard here...

<http://www.computerhope.com/issues/ch000347.htm>

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Hope this helps. Let us know.

Wes
MS-MVP Windows Shell/User

In news:8F921BEE-E285-4D89-8428-45C57BFDC966@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx, wumply <wumply@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> hunted and pecked:

I red the other day that the subjectd file monitors browsing habits and that it is a registered sevcurity risk and should bae removed immediateluy. I've noticed that it often comes bundled with products with the Wise installer. I have 4 such instances:

UNWISE.EXE in folder C:\Program Files\Active Password Changer Demo
UNWISE.EXE in folder C:\Program Ffiles\Lavasoft\Ad-Aware SE Personal
UNWISE.EXE in folder C:\Program Files\Yahoo\Messenger
UNWISE.EXE in folder C:\WINDOWS\system32\Macromedia\Shockwave10

And the following:

Search?hl=en&q=UNWISE.EXE&BTNG=Google+Search
in folder C:\Documents and Settings\John D. Miller\Local Settrings\Temp Internet Files

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UNWISE.EXE –
Google Searach google (www.google.com)
unwise–unwise.exe–Process Information in
folder liutilities
(www.liutilities.com)

Can I safely remove all of these and then IF
I want to delete some
jprogram they were bundled with, just use
Add/Remove to uninsjtall
that?

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Wes...a follow–up...well, an afterthought.
WHY would it be difficult to uninstall a program had I removed
UNWISE.EXE? I don't suppose allj programs come with that particular
program. Does every program have its own uninstaller of one type or
another.? If so, does that mean that Add/Remove itself does not
uninstall programs – that it only tells the program own uninstaller to
do so? wumply