

# Delayed shutdown problem

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I recently installed XPsp2 on a 80 GB IDE HDD on two of three ntfs partitions. One installation with ACPI the other is standard PC (I toggle ACPI in BIOS before starting the respective OS). The drive tests fine and is run in Ultra DMA 5 by both OS's

Both installs are virus/malware free, up-to-date with MS and have very few third party programs installed, Lavasoft firewall, Adaware, Spybot and Nod32 av.

They both exhibit the same problem on shutdown. The "welcome screen" says "Windows is shutting down...". The hard disk activity light is on at first then off for 30 seconds. then it blinks on and windows shuts down.

My main installation of XP in on the same computer on SATA Raid drive and it shuts down in a few seconds and I have tons of games and programs on it and MS services are configured the same.

I googled shutdown problems and and eliminated the most common; malware, pagefile, nvidia drivers, hibernate, etc..

I did a clean boots with msconfig and ONLY when I disable MS services did they shutdown normally (have to reactivate windows with a call to MS) I re-clean booted dozens of times trying to pinpoint the MS service responsible but the delayed shutdown would only stop when a large group of MS services were disabled. It isn't just one sevice responsible.

I tried disabling groups of services, those that come before RPC service and those after, alphabetically, but so far that has failed to narrow it down. The shutdown delay, when it occurs, is always about 30 seconds.

Booting Windows with no MS services is painfully slow and each change to msconfig requires two starts and shutdowns, one to make the change and one to test it. Changes to services don't take place until you reboot.

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