

# Re: msconfig

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform\\_maintain/2008-06/msg00143.htm](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform_maintain/2008-06/msg00143.htm)

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- *From:* David Starr <[dstarrboston@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dstarrboston@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 13 Jun 2008 12:54:58 -0400
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qiman wrote:

would like to learn hoe to set to my parameters to free up memory and speed.

I will need to know what is abso;utely needed and what can be modified.

Any assets out there to help? thank you

Windows loads and runs, behind your back, a vast number of programs, device drivers, network drivers, smart key interceptors, and operating system support routines. Some of them are necessary (so necessary that Windows won't boot without them). Others are frills. All of them consume RAM and runtime. Although msconfig is supposed to be able to turn these programs on and off, net rumor has it that msconfig is not the right program to use. Better is Start->Settings->ControlPanel->administrativeTools->services. This program lists all the "services" in windows, status, running or not, and start up mode (auto, manual,never). It allows you to change startup mode and turn services on and off.

Care is required. For example service "Remote Program Control" is vital to Windows, and unless left "automatic" your computer will never boot again. Be warned. When in doubt google on the name of the service and read other's comments upon the necessity of said service. You will find a diversity of opinion on the net. Read more than one opinion. When in doubt go with the majority or with the Black Viper website. Start mode is automatic, manual or disabled. Automatic means the service is loaded a boot time, whether it is needed or not, slowing your boot everyting you boot. Manual means load the service when another program requests the service. The load will happen automatically when and if the service is needed. Disabled means never load this service, no matter what.

Services that are only used occassional should be "manual" so that they don't slow the boot, eat up ram and runtime unless they are needed.

Don't disable a service unless you are very sure that it is never needed.

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Blog: [www.newsnorthwoods.blogspot.com](http://www.newsnorthwoods.blogspot.com)

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