

System Restore & Automatic Updates not functioning

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform_maintain/2008-08/msg00281.htm

- *From:* floringeorge2001 <floringeorge2001@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 26 Aug 2008 15:36:11 -0700
-

I have a Dell Inspiron 6400 laptop with Windows XP Professional SP3, Avast antivirus, Spyware Doctor, Comodo Firewall Pro, Spybot Search & Destroy, Norton Security Scan and starting few days ago I accidentally noticed the following:

1. the Automatic Updates feature is not operational. When going into the Windows Security Center, I noticed that the Automatic Updates feature is turned off. When I clicked on the "Turn on Automatic Updates" tab I get the following message : "We're sorry.The Security Center could not change your Automatic Updates settings. To try changing these settings yourself , go to System in Control Panel. On the Automatic Updates tab, select Automatic (recommended), and then click OK ". Then I went to the System – Automatic Updates : I noticed that the "Turn off Automatic Updates" tab is checked/ticked and that this tab and all the other tabs ["Automatic (recommended) " , "Download updates for me , but let me choose when to install them" and " Notify me but don't automatically download or install them"] are not active – that is the headings of the respective tabs are translucent, and therefore I can not check/tick any of the three tabs for turning on the automatic updates.

Please note that there was no alert notifying me that the Automatic Updates is turned off !!

2. I tried to do a system restore using several earlier dates but it failed. (cannot restore the comp[uter to the specified date)
3. The letters "i" and "l" of the name of files within the folders appear with BROWN color.

I did full scans using Avast, Spyware Doctor, Spybot Search and Destroy and Norton Security Scan but no virus or spyware were detected. I should add that so far I managed to successfully download and install manually all the updates using the Microsoft Update web site. Also, a couple of weeks ago I started to use Windows Steady State but 3–4 days ago I decided to remove it because it takes to much time to do the changes when restarting the computer. I also used Systemal Rootkit revealer but nothing significant was detected.

I should add that I successfully manually updated my computer using Microsoft Update and Windows update websites.

I would appreciate a solution to my two problems :

1. I can not turn on the Automatic updates in the Windows XP Security Center

System Restore & Automatic Updates not functioning

2. Failure of Windows XP System Restore to restore my laptop to earlier dates.

Thanks !