

Re: Searching from Address Bar

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.inetexplorer.ie6.browser/2004-04/2716.htm>

From: Jim Byrd (jrbyrd_at_spamlessadelphia.net)

Date: 04/08/04

Date: Wed, 7 Apr 2004 21:34:10 -0700

Hi Scott and Joe – Download and run:

http://www.kellys-korner-xp.com/regs_edits/RestoreSearch2.REG to restore your search functions.

Note that this symptom often indicates the possibility of other malware.

You might want to go to this page at Jim Eshelman's site, here:

<http://aumha.org/a/noads.htm> and wait a little bit (be patient), while an analysis of a number of possible parasites on your machine will be made to help you identify and remove them. NOTE: You will need to disable Ad Blocking in Zone Alarm 3.x, if present or any other Ad Blocking software which interferes with Java Scripting for this scan to work. You should get a message between the two lines of **** giving the results of the scan.

For the general hijack case, the best way to start is to get Ad-Aware 6.0, Build 181 or later, here: <http://www.lavasoftusa.com/support/download/>. UPDATE and run this regularly to get rid of most "spyware/hijackware" on your machine. If it has to fix things, be sure to re-boot and rerun AdAware again and repeat this cycle until you get a clean scan. The reason is that it may have to remove things which are currently "in use" before it can then clean up others.

Another excellent program for this purpose is SpyBot Search and Destroy available here: <http://security.kolla.de/> SpyBot Support Forum here: <http://www.net-integration.net/cgi-bin/forums/ikonboard.cgi>. I recommend using both normally. After UPDATING and fixing things with SpyBot S&D, be sure to re-boot and rerun SpyBot again and repeat this cycle until you get a clean "no red" scan. The reason is that SpyBot sometimes has to remove things which are currently "in use" before it can then clean up others.

Note that sometimes you need to make a judgement call about what these programs report as spyware. See here, for example:

<http://www.imilly.com/alex.htm>

A currently common parasite which can cause this symptom is some malware called CoolWebSearch. Do the following:

Download and run: <http://www.merijn.org/files/cwshredder.zip> to remove the parasite. Be sure to close all instances of IE and OE. Always download a new copy of this application, as it is updated almost daily.,

Then download and run:

http://www.kellys-korner-xp.com/regs_edits/iegentabs.reg to restore your tabs and remove any restrictions that the parasite has put in place.

Be sure that you also download and install hotfix Q816093, here:

<http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=816093>

which blocks the exploit upon which this parasite family depends.

Once you get things cleaned up, you might want to consider installing the SpywareBlaster and SpywareGuard here to help prevent this kind of thing from happening in the future:

<http://www.javacoolsoftware.com/spywareblaster.html> (Prevents malware Active X installs) (BTW, SpyWare Blaster is not memory resident ... no CPU or memory load – but keep it UPDATED) The latest version as of this writing will prevent installation or prevent the malware from running if it is already installed, and it provides information and fixit-links for a variety of parasites.

<http://www.wilderssecurity.net/spywareguard.html> (Monitors for attempts to install malware) Keep it UPDATED. Both Very Highly Recommended.

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Please respond in the same thread.

Regards, Jim Byrd, MS-MVP

In news:2ni970h07ffjn7hc31gvb10shpsi822s47@4ax.com,

Scott <scottm9000@hotmail.com> typed:

> On Wed, 7 Apr 2004 20:26:03 -0700, Joe <desor@hotmail.com> wrote:

>

>> I now have the same problem as you. Did you ever find a solution?

>>

> Nope, it's still doing it. I can't figure out what's going on. Ideas?

> Anyone? This is a definite stumper!

>

>> ----- Margie wrote: -----

>>

>> I used both SpyBot and Adaware and updated both of them
>> and removed all problems found. Now when I search from the
>> address bar, I no longer get those shopping websites but
>> it doesn't search at all now. It keeps saying "page can
>> not be displayed" and "server not found". But when I enter
>> an actual website address or click on my favorites, it
>> works fine. It just won't search at all.

>>

>>

>> >-----Original Message-----

>> >Some website has hijacked your homepage.

>> >>1. Use the following scanners to find and remove the
>> website.

>> >>SpyBot S&D searches your harddisk for so-called spy- or
>> adbots;

>> >><http://security.kolla.de/>

microsoft.public.windows.inetexplorer.ie6.browser: Re: Searching from Address Bar

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>> >or
>> >Adaware
>> >http://www.lavasoftusa.com/software/adaware/
>> >or
>> >CWShredder
>> >http://www.spychecker.com/program/cwshredder.html
>> >>2. Some porn websites redirects links to their websites
>> using your HOSTS
>> >file. Do a search for the HOSTS (without extension) file
>> and remove the
>> >entry.
>> >>3. If still no joy, download HijackThis from Spywareinfo
>> download page
>> >>http://www.spywareinfo.com/downloads.php
>> >>Run the program and you will find many entries. Most are
>> OK. Post the log. I
>> >will find the problem for you.
>> >>4. For future preventive maintenance, make sure programs
>> cannot just
>> >download on your computer without your permission. From
>> the Internet
>> >Toolbar, go to Tools > Internet Options > Advanced. Make
>> sure "Enable
>> >Install On Demand (Internet Explorer)" and "Enable
>> Install On Demand
>> >(Other)" are unchecked.
>> >>--
>> >Warren
>> >For additional help, post in
>> >http://groups.msn.com/HelpforInternetExplorerorWindowsME/h
>> ome page
>> >>"Margie" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in
>> message
>> >news:111b801c3f45c$43bc2c40$a501280a@phx.gbl...
>> >> I have always searched from my address bar without any
>> >> problems. Suddenly, the only websites that show up are
>> >> shopping websites. I have no idea why this is suddenly
>> >> happening or how to fix it.
>> >>>.
>> >
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