

## Re: Internet Explorer has been hijacked by "About:Blank"

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.inetexplorer.ie6.browser/2004-08/5436.htm>

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**From:** Bill V (*mothergoose\_enb\_at\_yahoo.com*)

**Date:** 08/26/04

Date: Thu, 26 Aug 2004 00:44:08 GMT

Have you tried running;  
hijackthis.exe  
then using the information to troubleshoot with.  
Bill

"george@barringtonsoftware.com"

<george@barringtonsoftware.com@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message  
news:1B4AA89E-B73A-45BB-902F-894112DCA6EA@microsoft.com...

> *Hello John, anyone else,*

>

> *I have had a full blown case of about:blank. I read someplace else that  
the*

> *programmer who wrote it should have his (sorry about gender discrimination*

> *here, but no woman would do such a thing) privates encased in a vice*

> *whilst*

> *it is being closed. I'll second that.*

>

> *Two things just to get it to stop. Keep your modem off when you startup*

> *your computer. Kill Iexplore.exe sessions that come up in the process*

> *list*

> *of Task Manager (Windows NT, 2K, XP). This is what is resetting your home*

> *page. Either keep the modem off or wait a minute or two. It gives up*

> *after*

> *a retry or two.*

>

> *Next your browser -> Tools ->Internet Options -> Security. Click Custom*

> *Level. Disable Java and disable download. You can disable the Activex as*

> *well. Reset them to enabled after you think you are not going to be*

> *reinfected every time your computer starts up.*

>

> *Until I followed these steps, the whole thing would come back every time I*

> *re-started my computer.*

>

> *To get rid of it I ran CWshredder.exe, which seemed to get rid of it, but*

> *as*

- > *I mentioned, it kept coming back. I also downloaded NoAdware, which actually*
- > *identified files that should be removed and was able to remove them pretty*
- > *well. It also keeps identifying svchost.exe in my Windows System32*
- > *directory*
- > *as being infected with a dll which it is claiming is causing my problems.*
- I**
- > *is not able to remove this file, which is a good thing because it is vital*
- to**
- > *communications. I replaced it with an identical file from Windows XP*
- Service**
- > *Pack 1a on another computer and it diagnosed the new one the same way. So*
- > *I'm not sure. I don't know any of the other adware programs so can't*
- comment**
- > *on whether they are better or NoAdware is better or whether any of them*
- > *really completeley work.*
- >
- > *At any rate, now I can work on the computer O.K., I am able to set my*
- > *homepage O.K., but my computer continues to crank up a session of*
- > *Iexplore.exe every time at startup as well as occaisional extra IE sessions*
- > *that begin at about:blank and morph into advertisements, many of them from*
- a**
- > *bannerfarm site. This is manageable, but I sure would like to get rid of*
- the**
- > *IE startup at computer startup and the extra sessions.*
- >
- > *I also have an empty value in the place described where the reglite*
- program**
- > *is used.*
- >
- > *I have Norton 2003. I think Norton 2004 or greater is required to manage*
- > *adware. They do document it and claim that it is easy to get rid of, but*
- I**
- > *followed their procedure and I still have the symptoms described.*
- Perhaps,**
- > *because I have Norton 2003. They identified this as "Istbar" adware.*
- >
- > *I should also mention that when I uninstalled or got rid of "Istbar", the*
- > *uninstallation took me to a web page that said something like they were*
- sorry**
- > *to see the uninstallation and hoped it had been useful and also advertised*
- > *anti-adware software. "Istbar" is anything but useful. I would call it*
- more**
- > *like a plague.*
- >
- > *Any information anyone has would be welcomed.*
- >
- > *George Kotcher*
- > *Barrington Software Incorporated*
- >
- > *"john chapman" wrote:*

microsoft.public.windows.inetexplorer.ie6.browser: Re: Internet Explorer has been hijacked by "About:Blank"

>

> > *I have used reglite and it shows nothing in the Value field.*

> > *Presumably, the "hidden" file has been removed. Nevertheless,*

> > *about:blank still comes up when I say Use Blank for my homepage. I*

> > *get few if any popups, but my Norton Professional Security is set to*

> > *block all popups. Can I presume that the non hidden file still exists*

> > *on my machine. I have not been able to identify that file. Any*

> > *suggestions???*

> >