

## Re: Windows XP SP3 installed but Access Denied

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windowsupdate/2008-05/msg01254.html>

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- *From:* "Shenan Stanley" <[newshelper@xxxxxxxxx](mailto:newshelper@xxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 11 May 2008 12:19:26 -0500
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Mabel wrote:

My Toshiba downloaded and installed SP3 fine -- or at least it seemed so -- but then it rebooted with a dozen messages "Access is denied" (without any technical details) in a black window with something "system 32/cmd". Does it mean that not all the necessary changes has taken place but only part of them? Should I uninstall SP3 and try install it again? Is it dangerous to leave my system as it is?

PA Bear [MS MVP] wrote:

Error message when you try to install WinXP SP3: "Access is denied" or "Service Pack installation did not complete"  
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/949377>

If the OP uses method three from that article – at this time they should correct the last line of the script...

The last line of the script they have you copy/paste reads:

```
secedit /configure /cfg %windir%\inf\defltbase.inf /db defltbase.sdb  
/verbose
```

That will do you little good... That is a Vista thing. You want this line:

```
secedit /configure /cfg %windir%\repair\secsetup.inf /db secsetup.sdb  
/verbose
```

(That is a single line – no matter what word–wrapping does to it.)

If you download the Subinacl.exe and install it and then copy/paste the text as directed but change out ther last line with the one I have given you and run it on your system – it eill change the registry and file permissions to default settings – allowing SP3 to install without running into "access

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denied" errors. Essentially – something has happened (some program you installed/that got installed changed something, etc) to change the file/folder/registry permissions on your computer and the script on the web page (with the change I have suggested) should reset those permissions.

In other words – SP3 is fine – there is something specific with your system. ;–) Fix that and install SP3 and be up to date – then you can continue on and be happy about it.

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Shenan Stanley  
MS–MVP

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How To Ask Questions The Smart Way  
<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

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