

Re: Word 2007 Files Are Automatically Created in Compatibility Mod

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.docmanagement/2008-07/msg01228.html>

- *From:* KarenG <KarenG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 16 Jul 2008 06:53:01 -0700
-

Even in safe mode, Word still opened in compatibility mode. So I figured it had to be a Registry entry that was causing the problem. After some searching, I found the cause. In case anyone else's Word 2007 installs in compatibility mode, you can edit the Registry (carefully) to fix the problem.

- Click Start > Run, type regedit and click OK
- Select My Computer
- Click Edit > Find
- Type CompatMode and click Find Next
- It should find the first instance in:
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Office\12.0\Word\Options
- Delete the CompatMode entry (should be highlighted)
- Click Find Next once again
- It should find a second instance in:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Office\12.0\User Settings\{B8F49D5A-E0DF-465C-9EF0-AF2F95944228}\Create\Software\Microsoft\Office\12.0\Word\Options
- Delete that CompatMode entry also
- Exit the Registry

Word 2007 should open in its native XML mode.

(NOTE: The string in {} in your Local Machine Hkey above may be different)

Thanks for your help, Jay. Eliminating the possible causes you suggested led me to this fix.

"Jay Freedman" wrote:

There's definitely something wrong.

First go to Start > Run and enter

winword.exe /a

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(note the space before the slash) to run Word without the Normal.dotm template, add-ins, or registry entries. Does Word now open without compatibility mode?

If so, try renaming the Normal.dotm template (in the folder %appdata%\Microsoft\Templates) to some other name and restarting Word (without the /a switch), which will rebuild a new template from scratch. If that fixes it, you're done.

If not, then disable any add-ins in the Word Options > Add-ins dialog. If that does the job, start re-enabling the add-ins one at a time and restarting Word until you find the one that causes the problem to start again.

There are a few more troubleshooting tips at <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/921541>.

On Thu, 10 Jul 2008 14:28:01 -0700, KarenG <KarenG@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Thank you. I set the "Save files in this format" option to the .docx format, but for some reason Word still opens in compatibility mode to create a new document. Do you know a way I can create a new document in the Word 2007 format without having to upconvert the blank document first?

"Jay Freedman" wrote:

KarenG wrote:

When my Office 2007 was installed, the option to create files in Word 2007 was set to compatibility mode. Does anyone know how to change this back permanently to create files in xml mode (the default Word 2007 format)? I can't find it in the Word options.

Go to Office button > Word Options > Save. The first box, "Save files in this format", sets the default format.

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Regards,

Jay Freedman

Microsoft Word MVP FAQ: <http://word.mvps.org>

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benefit.