

Advanced Windows XP SIG

March 21, 2002

Disk Cleanup Dick Kling

This process saves your settings and sets a key in the registry that enables you to schedule Disk Cleanup or to run it with one click. Also note that the Disk Cleanup Settings window that opens has FIVE more choices of stuff to eliminate. You can verify this by opening Disk Cleanup through START - ALL PROGRAMS - ACCESSORIES - SYSTEM TOOLS and noting the items that can be deleted by Disk Cleanup.

Here's the process;

- 1) START → ALL PROGRAMS → ACCESSORIES →
COMMAND PROMPT
 - 2) At the command prompt type `cleanmgr /sageset200` , the number is arbitrary you can use any number between 1 and 65535, and click ENTER
 - 3) The Disk Cleanup Settings window will open. Make your selections and click OK. This saves your changes to the registry. Then close the COMMAND PROMPT window.
 - 4) Create a shortcut using the command `cleanmgr /sagerun:200` give it a name such as Weekly Cleanup and move it to the Windows folder.
 - 5) Then open Control Panels Scheduled Tasks, start ADD SCHEDULED TASKS. When the WIZARD starts, select Disk Cleanup, and follow the steps in the Wizard.
- Reference: "Microsoft Windows XP Inside Out" pages 783-784

Shutdown problems with XP

Dick Kling

This problem is usually caused by APM systems on which XP is installed because APM (Advanced Power Management) is not enabled by default in XP.

- Right click desktop → properties → Screen Saver tab → click the Power button under Monitor power → APM tab → select "Enable Advanced Power Management support."
- If you see no such tab, go to Start → right click My Computer → select Properties → Hardware tab → click Device Manager button under Device Manager → View → turn on Show Hidden Devices → look for NT APM/Legacy Support (If you see no such entry, skip to the bottom of this message and try the suggested link), expand it, and bring up the properties for the node. In the device usage drop down list, select Use this device (enable) Hit the OK button and then close the device manger. You may need to reboot, but now it should shut your computer completely off on shutdown.

If none of the above applies, or helps, try the following site:

<http://www.aumha.org/a/shutdownxp.htm>

Other Tips

- Missing Icons
 - Right click desktop → Properties → Desktop tab → Customize Desktop
- Add Fields to the Details View of Folders
 - Open Windows Explorer → Right click the column header of the files list → click More → in Choose Details dialog box you can:
 - Reorganize order of headers
 - Add columns to display details
 - Specify column width in pixels
- CDROM AutoPlay
 - Allows you to define different default actions for different types of content
 - Open My Computer → Right click on CDROM drive → click Properties → AutoPlay tab → select a content type → choose action for each type of content
- Put Safe Mode on the menu. If you routinely test hardware, software and drivers, or if you have trouble tapping the F8 key to get to Windows Advanced Options Menu -- consider putting Safe Mode on the startup menu.
 - Go to Start → Right click on My Computer → Properties → select Advanced tab → select Settings in the Startup and Recovery section → in the Startup and Recovery dialog Box → Edit → this opens Boot.ini in Notepad → under [Operating Systems] select the entire line that contains the settings for your default operating system choice and copy it to the bottom of the list → append the following set of switches to the end of the newly copied line:

/safeboot:minimal /sos /bootlog

- Change the description in quotation marks to "Windows XP Safe Mode" and save the file.
 - Reboot your machine.
 - Note if you do nothing, you will get a normal start after a time delay.
 - You can select to have the machine boot in Safe Mode.
 - Or, you can press F8 to view the Windows Advanced Options menu.
 - If you suspect problems, start Windows in Safe Mode and do basic troubleshooting first. Logging on in safe Mode does not update the Last Known Good Configuration information, so you can safely roll back to the Last Known Good Configuration if Safe Mode troubleshooting is unsuccessful.
 - Other Startup Options
 - Enable Boot Logging -- look for Ntbtlog.txt. If system hanging because of bad driver, it may be the last entry
 - Enable VGA Mode - starts in standard VGA mode To recover from video problems
 - Directory Service Restore Mode -- Ignore it.
 - Debugging Mode -- Must connect to another computer through COM2.
- Reference: Microsoft Windows Inside Out pages 797-802