

Re: Blocking Windows Explorer in firewall

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Date: 03/10/03

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Date: Mon, 10 Mar 2003 22:03:48 GMT

"Skeeter" <skeeter@bug.net> wrote in message
news:MPG.18d693a54e6801719896ac@nntp.mindspring.com...
> In article <933A5E84D13485D4AM2@194.168.222.41>, peter@govern.com
> says...
>> I use Sygate firewall on my XP system. Quite often I get a message
>> saying Windows Explorer is trying to get in contact something on
>> the Internet. I don't want this.
> To block Internet Explorer, go to Sygate Application List. Internet
> Explorer should be listed there. (Any application that has or has
> tried to connect to internet should be listed there)
> Right click on Internet Explorer. A pop-up window will give you
> options to Allow, Ask, or Block. Check block.
>>
>> My firewall seems to be set to ask me each time Windows Explorer
>> uses the net so I want to fix the firewall to always deny access
>> rather than ask me.
> Once you block Internet Explorer, it will no longer ASK.
>> The problem is that I can't find C:\windows\explorer in the list of
>> firewall programs.
>>
>> Can someone tell me which program I should block?
> When you are in ASK mode and get a Sygate pop-up window asking you for
> approval for IE (or whatever) to connect to the net, look at the window
> closely, it tells you which file is asking. With Sygate (like most
> firewalls) you control the applications attempting to connect to
> internet. It is not necessary to locate the file somewhere down in
> your computer.
> The other poster had a good suggestion that Internet Explorer might
> be calling home for an update patch or something.
>

You have to be sure which it is, is it Internet Explorer? or Explorer? If
you block Internet Explorer, you wont be viewing WebPages anytime soon, or
at least not untill you unblock it again. I believe Explorer is the one
phoning home for updates. I think it would be better just to go to Explorer
and check to see if you have it set to phone home on it's own. Directions

below: (Read all of these directions, so you will know what all the options mean)

To configure settings for automatic updating or to disable:

Open Automatic Updates in Control Panel.

Click the option you want:

1. Automatically download updates and notify me when they are ready to be installed.

Windows finds updates that apply to your computer and downloads these updates in the background (you are not notified or interrupted during this process). After the download is complete, an icon appears in the taskbar with a message that updates for your computer are ready to be installed. To view and install the available updates, you can click the icon or its message. You can then select the specific updates you want installed on your computer.

2. Notify me before downloading any updates and notify me again when they are ready to be installed.

When Windows finds updates that apply to your computer, an icon appears in the taskbar with a message that updates are ready to be downloaded. After you click the icon (or its message), you can select the specific updates you want downloaded. Windows then downloads the selected updates in the background. When the download is complete, the icon appears in the taskbar again, this time to notify you that updates for your computer are ready to be installed. You can then select the specific updates you want installed on your computer.

3. Turn off automatic updating. I will update my computer manually.

Windows will not keep your computer automatically up-to-date. You can turn automatic updating back on at any time by selecting one of the first two settings.

When you choose not to install a specific update, Windows deletes it from your computer. If you change your mind later, you can click Restore Hidden Items. Any updates you have declined in the past that still apply to your computer will appear the next time Windows notifies you of available updates.

Notes

Another way to open Control Panel is to click Start, point to Settings, and then click Control Panel. If you don't see the item you want, click view all Control Panel options.

You can also change settings by clicking Settings in either the Available Updates or Details window when Windows notifies you about updates for your computer.

You can always install specific updates from the Windows Update Web site.