

## Re: rundll.exe

**Source:** <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.security.virus/2004-06/0368.html>

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Jocelyn wrote:

> *What is rundll.exe? Is it vital to my computer? I have  
> been trying to access things under Control Panel, or  
> regular applications and I get an error message. It  
> says "windows cannot access the specific device, path, or  
> file. You may not have the appropriate permissions to  
> access them." Does it sound like I may have a virus?*

The best way to determine if you have a virus is to install a current-version antivirus and keep its definitions updated. If you don't have one, you should get one ASAP. The rundll.exe may be caused by a virus or spyware. Continue proper maintenance of your computer by removing spyware with Spybot Search & Destroy from [www.safer-networking.org](http://www.safer-networking.org) and Ad-aware from [www.lavasoftusa.com](http://www.lavasoftusa.com). Be sure to update these programs before running them. These programs are free, so run them both since they complement each other. It is best to run antivirus and spyware removal tools in Safe Mode. You may also need to run CWShredder from <http://www.spywareinfo.com/~merijn/index.html>. Please read the instructions carefully. A great resource for dealing with spyware is <http://www.spywareinfo.com>. Also, make sure you've visited Windows Update and applied all security patches. Make sure you are running a firewall.

Malke

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MS-MVP Windows User/Shell  
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"Don't Panic"