

## Re: messenger pop ups

**Source:**

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2003-08/6149.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2003-08/6149.html)

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Greetings ---

Please stop posting potentially harmful advice. What are you, a hacker-wannabe? Why else would you be deliberately posting bad advice? Are you trying to give people a false sense of security by having them turn off what are, in effect, valid security warnings, while still leaving their PCs open to potential exploitation?

Disabling the messenger service is a "head in the sand" approach to computer security.

The real problem is not the messenger service pop-ups; they're actually providing a useful service by acting as a security alert. The true problem is the unsecured computer, and you're only advice, however well-intended, was to turn off the warnings. How is this helpful?

Equivalent Scenario: You over-exert your shoulder at work or play, causing bursitis. After weeks of annoying and sometimes excruciating pain whenever you try to reach over your head, you go to a doctor and say, while demonstrating the motion, "Doc, it hurts when I do this." The doctor, being as helpful as you are, replies, "Well, don't do that."

The only true way to secure the PC, short of disconnecting it from the Internet, is to install and *properly* configure a firewall; just installing one and letting it's default settings handle things is no good. Unfortunately, this does require one to learn a little bit more about using a computer than used to be necessary.

Bruce Chambers

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Help us help you:

<http://dts-l.org/goodpost.htm>

<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

You can have peace. Or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on having both at once. -- RAH

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microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\_admin: Re: messenger pop ups

"cord" <robberdetective\_44@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:03d201c3647b\$3f6ed910\$a601280a@phx.gbl...  
>  
> >-----Original Message-----  
> >does anyone know how to stop those annoying pop ups that  
> >say "your system is open to others, please go to www...  
> >and buy our software to fix this. I would think that i  
> >could just turn off something to stop it. It is usually  
> >labeled messenger service on the box heading. I turned  
> off  
> >windows messenger but it still keeps coming. please help  
> >if you can.  
> >Thanks!  
> >Glen  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*FIX\*\*\*\*\*  
> To Disable the Messenger Service Manually:  
> -- Click on the Start button in the taskbar  
> -- Open Control Panels  
> -- Go to "Administrative Tools" (XP users may need to go  
> to "Performance and Maintenance" first,  
> then "Administrative Tools")  
> -- Double-click on "Services"  
> -- Scroll down to "Messenger"  
> -- Double-click on "Messenger"  
> -- Change the Startup type to "Disabled"  
> -- Click "Stop" to stop the service  
>  
> To Re-Enable Manually:  
> Follow the above steps, but change the Startup type  
> to "Automatic," then click "Apply," then click "Start"  
> under Service Status.  
>  
> Note:  
> You must be logged on as an Administrator for the  
> automatic fix to work.  
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