

## Services You Can Disable

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There are quite a few services you can disable from starting automatically.  
This would be to speed up your boot time and free resources.  
They are only suggestions so I suggestion you read the description of each one when you run Services  
and that you turn them off one at a time.

Some possibilities are:

Alerter  
Application Management  
Clipboard  
Fast UserSwitching  
Human Interface Devices  
Indexing Service  
Messenger  
Net Logon  
NetMeeting  
QOS RSVP  
Remote Desktop Help Session Manager  
Remote Registry  
Routing & Remote Access  
SSDP Discovery Service  
Universal Plug and Play Device Host  
Web Client

## Cleaning the Prefetch Directory

WindowsXP has a new feature called Prefetch. This keeps a shortcut to recently used programs.  
However it can fill up with old and obsolete programs.

To clean this periodically go to:

Star / Run / Prefetch  
Press Ctrl-A to highlight all the shorcuts  
Delete them

## Not Displaying Logon, Logoff, Startup and Shutdown Status Messages

To turn these off:

Start Regedit

Go to HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\policies\system

If it is not already there, create a DWORD value named DisableStatusMessages

Give it a value of 1

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## Clearing the Page File on Shutdown

Click on the Start button

Go to the Control Panel

Administrative Tools

Local Security Policy

Local Policies

Click on Security Options

Right hand menu - right click on "Shutdown: Clear Virtual Memory Pagefile"

Select "Enable"

Reboot

For regedit users.....

If you want to clear the page file on each shutdown:

Start Regedit

Go to HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Memory Management\ClearPageFileAtShutdown

Set the value to 1

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## No GUI Boot

If you don't need to see the XP boot logo,

Run MSCONFIG

Click on the BOOT.INI tab

Check the box for /NOGUIBOOT

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## Speeding the Startup of Some CD Burner Programs

If you use program other than the native WindowsXP CD Burner software,  
you might be able to increase the speed that it loads.

Go to Control Panel / Administrative Tools / Services

Double-click on IMAPI CD-Burning COM Service

For the Startup Type, select Disabled

Click on the OK button and then close the Services window

If you dont You should notice

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## Getting Rid of Unread Email Messages

To remove the Unread Email message by user's login names:

Start Regedit

For a single user: Go to HKEY\_CURRENT\_USERSoftwareMicrosoftWindowsCurrentVersionUnreadMail  
For all users: Go to HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINESOFTWAREMicrosoftWindowsCurrentVersionUnreadMail  
Create a DWORD key called MessageExpiryDays  
Give it a value of 0

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## Decreasing Boot Time

Microsoft has made available a program to analyze and decrease the time it takes to boot to WindowsXP  
The program is called BootVis

Uncompress the file.  
Run BOOTVIS.EXE  
For a starting point, run Trace / Next Boot + Driver Delays  
This will reboot your computer and provide a benchmark  
After the reboot, BootVis will take a minute or two to show graphs of your system startup.  
Note how much time it takes for your system to load (click on the red vertical line)  
Then run Trace / Optimize System  
Re-Run the Next Boot + Drive Delays  
Note how much the time has decreased  
Mine went from approximately 33 to 25 seconds.

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## Increasing Graphics Performance

By default, WindowsXP turns on a lot of shadows, fades, slides etc to menu items.  
Most simply slow down their display.

To turn these off selectively:

Right click on the My Computer icon  
Select Properties  
Click on the Advanced tab  
Under Performance, click on the Settings button  
To turn them all of, select Adjust for best performance  
My preference is to leave them all off except for Show shadows under mouse pointer and Show window contents while dragging

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## Increasing System Performance

If you have 512 megs or more of memory, you can increase system performance  
by having the core system kept in memory.

Start Regedit  
Go to HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINESYSTEMCurrentControlSetControlSession ManagerMemory ManagementDisablePagingExecut  
Set the value to be 1  
Reboot the computer

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## Increasing File System Caching

To increase the amount of memory Windows will locked for I/O operations:

Start Regedit

Go to HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Memory Management

Edit the key IoPageLockLimit

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Resolving Inability to Add or Remove Programs

If a particular user cannot add or remove programs, there might be a simple registry edit needed.

Go to HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Uninstall

Change the DWORD NoAddRemovePrograms to 0 disable it

4096 - 32megs of memory or less

8192 - 32+ megs of memory

16384 - 64+ megs of memory

32768 - 128+ megs of memory

65536 - 256+ megs of memory