



Batch Heal & Clean v.1.0.3

A Batch File to automate complex tasks of repairing Windows XP's common problems.

Shadab Zafar

shadab.softs@gmail.com

Shadab Softs. Inc. <http://shadabsofts.wordpress.com/>



Batch Heal & Clean v.1.0.3

-By Shadab Zafar shadab.softs@gmail.com

What Is Batch Heal & Clean?

Want to cleanup your hard drive of all the junk that builds up over time and delete the trails that may lead people to who you are and what you do online? With this tool, you can delete cached files, history, URLs, cookies and so much more!

It removes temporary files, auto complete history (preventing anyone from seeing any terms you've typed into a search engine's field), internet history, recent document list, common temporary files and so much more!

All this is when it is launched with no command-line parameters.

With passed parameters it will also block hundreds of adware, dialers, spyware and malware from running in internet explorer. It can remove your recent files, registry history, media player history, find file history and open/save history. It can also restore your file associations to XP's defaults.

If this wasn't enough BHC can also scan your Hosts file for non-malicious entries, backup and restore it and even replace it with the well known mvps.org's Hosts file. It can also remove those pesky programs which startup with the computer.

Unlike other bloated cleanup programs out there, BHC is just a small Batch file that does it all. Just because it hasn't got a nice eye candy interface doesn't mean that it's no good!

A Short Note

Before moving on to the next page, I would like to clarify some things.

“BHC.bat” is nothing but the original Batch heal and clean file that you have downloaded. If you have renamed it then use that name instead of “BHC.bat”.

Getting Started

I have accompanied a secondary batch file named Starter.bat which will come in handy for those who are too lazy to start the command prompt.

Just edit the line `HStart /NOCONSOLE /REALTIME ""BHC.bat""` to add parameters after "BHC.bat".

Suppose you wanted to see the version, you would change that line to `HStart /NOCONSOLE /REALTIME ""BHC.bat" /VER"`
I hope you got it.

The technique discussed above is for lamers. BHC is a Batch File after all and it should be run directly from the command line.

Why Use HStart?

Hidden Start (or HStart) is a utility that allows console applications (and Batch Files) to be started without any window in the background.

Try running BHC.bat without HStart and you will come to know what a cool utility HStart is.

Thanks to NTWind for this one.

Copyright (c) 2003-2010 NTWind Software
<http://www.ntwind.com/software/utilities/hstart.html>

Command-Line Usage

The syntax that BHC understands is

“BHC.bat” [Parameters] [/Q]

Where Parameters can be any one of these:-

/MRU [/Q]
/MSCLEAN [/Q]
/ASSOC [/Q]

/STARTUP [-USER | -ALL] [/Q]

/HOSTS [-SCAN | -COPY | -BACK | -REST] [/Q]

/TROJAN [/Q]
/SPYWARE [/Q]

/VER
/DEV
/LIC
/HELP | /?

NOTE

All the Parameters are in **UPPERCASE**. It wouldn't work if you type them in lowercase or in mixed case. Look at these wrong ways of passing the parameters.

WRONG WAYS

“BHC.bat” /mRu /q

“BHC.bat” /Assoc -Q

“BHC.bat” /Startup /USER -All

Parameters Explained

“BHC.bat”

Running BHC.bat with no parameters performs these basic cleanup tasks:

1. Removal of any restrictions present on the computer such as
 - a. Disabled Task Manager
 - b. Disabled Registry Editor
 - c. No Folder Option etc.
2. Cleaning of following
 - a. Temporary Files
 - i. %Temp% Folder
 - ii. XP's Standard temp. files
 - iii. Current Users temp. files
 - iv. Backup temp. files
 - v. Temp. files present in folders other than in root directory
 - vi. Temporary files left over by other applications
 - b. Internet Files
 - i. Temp. Internet files
 - ii. Internet History
 - iii. Cookies
 - iv. Offline Web Pages
 - c. Recent Document History
 - d. Other Unnecessary files like
 - i. Diagnostic files created by Windows
 - ii. Help AVI files
 - iii. Icon Cache
 - iv. MS Office recent files
3. Fixing of following errors
 - a. Disabling of Autorun feature on USB Disks
 - b. Fixing of error in which Search box opens when a folder or drive is double clicked
 - c. Setting of Explorer as default shell of Windows.

“BHC.bat” /MRU

The /MRU parameter cleans all the recently opened file records in registry (MRUs). These Include:

1. History of last place visited in regedit
2. History of recently used files from MSPaint
3. History of recently used files from WordPad
4. History of recently visited URLs in Netscape
5. History of typed URLs in internet explorer
6. History of wallpapers that user has used
7. History of files & folders that user has opened in common dialog boxes
8. History of computers, files and printer ports that user has searched for
9. History of past items in notification tray
10. History of recent documents that user has opened from start menu
11. History of recent commands typed in run box from start menu
12. The directory where user has downloaded items to in internet explorer
13. History of recently used files from media player
14. History of recently used phone numbers in messenger
15. History of recently used files from Microsoft management console
16. History of recently used files from Windows search assistant
17. History of recently mapped network drives from drop down list in explorer
18. History of recently used machines from Microsoft telnet
19. History of items used in named text box on start, find files or folder dialog box
20. Search history from start menu for files and folders

“BHC.bat” /MSCLEAN

The /MSCLEAN parameter launches the Microsoft Cleanup Manager.

Microsoft Cleanup Manager is a small program (about 85k) that is installed as standard on XP. It is very good for cleaning out a whole range of temporary files etc from your computer.

Following things will be cleaned when /MSCLEAN parameter is specified

1. Older System Restore Points
2. Compressed Old Files
3. Indexing Catalog Files etc.

“BHC.bat” /ASSOC

The /ASSOC parameter restores the file associations to Windows XP's Defaults.

This fixes the scenario where Executables open with Notepad or other Text Editor.

WARNING: Restoring Default Associations may cause any third party application to lose their file associations.

“BHC.bat” /STARTUP [-USER | -ALL]

The /STARTUP parameter cleans all those programs which auto-load with Windows.

This parameter is further divided into two options.

-USER

This will remove all the startup entries of the current user only.

-ALL

This option removes all the startup entries of the entire system.

NOTE: The /STARTUP parameter cannot be used alone. It has to be chained with one of the two Options i.e. either -USER or -ALL.

“BHC.bat” /HOSTS [-SCAN | -COPY | -BACK | -REST]

The /HOSTS parameter performs operations on the HOSTS file.

There are four options available with this parameter.

-SCAN

My friends used to complain to me that some websites (mainly orkut.com) was not opening on their system. When investigated I found that there was an entry of the same in the HOSTS file.

This feature scans your HOSTS file for non-malicious entries like Microsoft.com, Google.com, Orkut.com, Facebook.com, Twitter.com etc.

-COPY

This option replaces your current HOSTS file with mvps.org's version which contains a huge number of adware sites and many spyware and tracking sites too.

Once replaced, your Internet Browsing will become a lot smoother as those nasty advertisements won't bother you now.

You don't have to worry about your previous HOSTS file as it will be backed up automatically.

-BACK

This will backup your current HOSTS file and save it in the same directory with the extension .BAK. So, you can later restore it.

-REST

This will restore your HOSTS file with the version that you backed up. If no backup is present it will result in an error.

NOTE: The /HOSTS parameter cannot be used alone. It has to be chained with one of the four Options i.e. either -SCAN, -COPY, -BACK or -REST.

“BHC.bat” /TROJAN

The /TROJAN scans your computer for Trojan activity. If Trojans are found it alerts you and then cleans them.

The Trojans which BHC can currently clean:

1. Acid Silver
2. Back Orifice
3. Deep Throat
4. The Gate
5. The Girlfriend
6. Happy Worm
7. Blaze and Control
8. Netbus and all its variants
9. Netspy
10. Phineas
11. PrettyPark
12. Subseven
13. TeleCommando
14. LoveLetter Virus Script
15. WinCrash

I am currently working on some more of them. They will be added soon.

“BHC.bat” /SPYWARE

This option will check for about 100+ different spyware, dialers, malware files and blocks bad ActiveX controls from running inside Internet Explorer.

The list is too huge to add them here. If you still want to know what is cleaned then i advise you to check out its source code and read the comments.

All other Active-X controls or plug-ins will work fine.

The /Q Parameter

/Q is the Quietness parameter. When coupled with any other argument it will perform all the tasks silently i.e. there will no message boxes to disturb you.

Some examples:

```
"BHC.bat" /Q
```

```
"BHC.bat" /HOSTS -COPY /Q
```

```
"BHC.bat" /STARTUP -USER /Q
```

Other Non-Technical Parameters

“BHC.bat” /VER

This option will show the current version of BHC, date the version was released and the date an updated version will be out (probably).

“BHC.bat” /DEV

This will show some details about the development of BHC including my Inspirations and some special thanking. It will also ask you to visit Shadab Softs. Inc. (my blog) to download more such scripts and softwares.

“BHC.bat” /LIC

The /LIC parameter shows a message box containing the BHC's License.

Don't worry as it's not a lengthy EULA like other softwares out there but a one line License.

Do have a look at it.

“BHC.bat” /HELP | /?

Any of these options will show you the Help box containing the correct syntax of using BHC.

Do use this when you are in doubt.

NOTE: The /Q parameter will not work with these options as they can't do anything SILENTLY.

Standard Errors

XP Error

I am a Windows XP fan so I have personally created it for Windows XP only and it won't work on other systems. If you still want to use it on Windows Vista or 7 then I think you will have to remove some lines of code (I won't help you with this).

SOLUTION: - Get Windows XP

Environment Error

Environment Variables are required for almost every task that BHC can perform so it will not work when they are not found.

SOLUTION: - I am currently working on a feature that I will soon add which will repair missing Environment Variables. You will have to wait till then.

Data File Not Found

The data file is an integral part as it contains data that is required by BHC to work properly. BHC cannot work without it.

To know what the data file actually contains you should check out the source.

SOLUTION: - Make sure the file Data.dll is in the same directory as "BHC.bat".

If you have mistakenly deleted it then you have no option but to re-download BHC from code.google.com/p/batch-heal-clean

Data File Corrupted

The chances of this error showing up are rare but it can happen when some other file with the name "Data.dll" is present in the same directory.

SOLUTION: - Once the data file is corrupted you can't do anything but to re-download it from code.google.com/p/batch-heal-clean

Cleanup Manager Not Found

This error will show up only if you have specified /MSCLEAN parameter and Microsoft Cleanup Manager (cleanmgr.exe) is not found on your computer.

SOLUTION: - Copy cleanmgr.exe from someone else's computer or wait till I supply it with BHC.

No Backup Present

This error will show up when you are trying to restore something that has not been previously backed up by BHC.

SOLUTION: - Backup before you try to restore.

NOTE: There may be errors which I don't know about. Please report them to me at code.google.com/p/batch-heal-clean or you can directly mail me at shadab.softs@gmail.com

Standard Warnings

Hosts File Not Found

This warning shows up when you have supplied the /HOSTS parameter and your hosts file is not found. You don't to worry as BHC creates it automatically.

Trojans Found

If you have requested a Trojan Check (/TROJAN) and Trojans are found on your system this warning message will show up. You don't have to panic as BHC would have already removed them.

Special Thanks to

1. Paul Brown for creating XEN (BHC's big brother)
2. www.mvps.org for their Hosts file
3. NTWind Software for Hidden Start
4. Eric Phelps for his tutorials on batch
5. Bill James, Doug Knox & Rob Van Der Woude for their Batch samples

Standard Disclaimer

I CANNOT be held liable for ANY problems, errors, data loss etc you might experience by using this program (Batch Heal & Clean).

BHC was tested by me and some of my friends. It has worked for me, and for other users, but it might NOT work for ALL of you due to the huge variety of PC hardware/software combinations/configurations/settings out there.

If there is some problem with it you can mail me and I will make sure that your problem is sorted out.

Best Regards,

Shadab Zafar

<http://shadabsofts.wordpress.com/>