
HOW TO: Updating, Optimizing, and Cleaning computer and operating system

Article Number: 452 | Last Updated: Tue, Sep 13, 2016 at 11:04 AM

Updating, Optimizing, and Cleaning computer and operating system **Install Windows Updates** Microsoft releases critical updates on a monthly basis. If your system hasn't been online in awhile, it's likely that you are missing a few. This is the easiest way to fall victim to a virus attack so make sure you don't skip this step.

Check for Updates Launch Internet Explorer (Must use this browser). Go to **Tools -> Windows Updates**. **Choose Express for the simplest install. Install ALL critical and High-priority updates. Reboot system if prompted at end of install (important).**

Setup Automatic Updating Go to **Start -> Control Panel Click on Automatic Updates Choose Automatic, Every Day, and a time that you know your system should be on.** **Note:** If you miss the scheduled time, Windows will check for updates at next boot up.

Scan your system for Viruses Worst way to start a semester is with a virus...so make sure that's not the case! If you don't have Trend-Micro or you have an Anti-Virus that isn't updating, see our [Solution Guide](#) for instructions on installing Trend-Micro. **Check for Trend-Micro Virus Definition Updates** Right click on the blue globe in the bottom right corner of your task tray. Choose **Update Now. Choose Update Now** on the update screen. You should receive a message stating that Trend has been updated.

Scan your System Right click on the blue globe in the bottom right corner of your task tray. Choose **OfficeScan Console**. Click on **All Fixed Drives**. Click on **Scan if a virus is detected, let it do the default action requested.**

Scan your system for Spyware The recommended application for checking for spyware is Trend-Micro Ant-Virus. If you have not installed Trend, you can do so by going to our [Software Download site](#). It is also good to complement with some alternative Anti-Spyware products such as: [Spybot Search & Destroy](#) (Free) [MalwareBytes' Anti-Malware](#) (Free) [Ad-Aware SE Personal Edition](#) (Free basic scan)

Clean Up Internet Cache Temporary Internet Files can consists of malicious files that pose a danger to your system. It's good practice to clean browser cache out on a regular basis to avoid possible problems. Here's the steps to do that in IE and Firefox: **Clean Up Internet Explorer** Go to **Start -> Programs -> Accessories -> System Tools -> Disk Cleanup**. Make sure **Temporary Internet Files** is checked. You can optionally select other items such as Recycle Bin if you like. Click **OK**. Answer **Yes** to question to confirm deletion.

Mozilla Firefox Launch Firefox. Go to **Tools -> Options**. Click on **Privacy**. Click on **Clear Cache Now**. Â Â

Posted - Tue, Sep 13, 2016 at 11:04 AM.

Online URL: <https://hdkb.clemson.edu/phpkb/article.php?id=452>