

## Windows Files Left On Disk After Logout

Type of File	Process	Why it is done	How to stop it
Browser Cache files	Web Browsers	Faster display	Disable, cache size 1MB, link to /dev/null
Auto-recover files	Office + others	Convenience, program stability	Turn off option
NTUSER.DAT	OS	User config info	Anybody? Bueller?
Spyware executables	??	Money	Monitor programs loaded / running on system
Application log files	Any application	Track use/installs	Turn off logging, delete
Recent file history	Office + others	User convenience	Turn off, clear, set length to 0
History file	Web Browsers, shells	Find previous page or command used	Turn off, ln /dev/null
Windows Update	OS, apps	So you don't have to!	Turn off ??, read your license agreement!
Auto-complete	Browser + others	User convenience	Turn off
Hijacking	Usually browser	Companies misguided greed and stupidity	Make bookmarks R/O, turn off javascript/etc
Auto-download of files	Web browser	So "trusted sites" can "help you"	Don't allow
System logs	OS	Debugging problems	Turn off all logging, rotate frequently
Auto-error reporting	WinXP	Help MS create "quality" and "secure" software	Change options
Registry Entries	OS	Central location for critical information	Clear or erase (v e r y c a r e f u l l y!)
Recycle bin – INFO, INFO2	Win98	Who put a file there, when file was moved	Delete
System Restore	SRSservice	Tracks changes to system files for restore	Disable

A page found by a student: <http://www.fuckmicrosoft.com/content/ms-hidden-files.shtml>.