

# XP Automatic Updates From Microsoft

**To any of you on who are not using Microsoft Windows XP, read no further! Ignore the following.**

This is only for you if you are using Microsoft Windows XP.

Windows Automatic Updates for XP can become a real pain.

Some users may reckon they gain little advantage from the Microsoft Windows Updates. While Windows XP is well nigh obsolete it remains an excellent operating system. Updates are still available each month but they are becoming less relevant to a normal user, especially if you have a good virus checker and your computer usage produces no nasty error messages. It is perfectly reasonable to decide to turn the automatic updates off.

This does not create a security risk or jeopardise your virus update.

If you want to continue getting the updates, have a look at the Automatic Updates setting. You will find this by clicking Start / Control Panel and then double clicking Automatic Updates. (You can do this while viewing this file).

The recommended setting, suggested by Microsoft as you can see in the diagram below, is Automatic starting at 3.00am.

Unless you change the setting, when you turn your computer in the morning, the first thing that happens is a check for updates. Then, if there are any, the download starts followed by their installation. Your computer becomes a slave to this tyrant and you will wonder why it is slow, seeming to be sluggish. This is because it is too busy attending to the updates in the background, which take priority use of the computer.

This is quite simply not on!

So, the way to avoid the startup problem is to choose either the Notify me ... option or the Turn off... option. The Download ... option is not much use.

If you wish to change the setting, click on the circle next to the N or the T in the dialog on the right. Then click OK.

This leads to a red shield  being displayed in the System Tray at the bottom right-hand corner of your screen.

This shield will nag you to set the updates back on to Automatic ... very irritating.

You can remove this nag by changing the Security Center setting. (You can do this while viewing this file)



Click Start / Control Panel / Security Center and double click Security Center.

On the left hand side of the dialog box, under Resources, click Change the way Security Center alerts me. Then click the tick next to Automatic Updates to remove the tick, then OK. Now the red shield nag will disappear.

You can turn reverse all this anytime later if you wish.

If you want to continue getting the updates, choose the Notify me ... option.

Remember to check occasionally that the Automatic Update feature of Windows is set as you want it to be.

The simple solution to Updates is to turn them off, Choose the Turn off... option, and silence the nag!

Occasionally, Microsoft force an update, even with update turned off. You can do little about this unless there is an option to reject it. Reject it if you are able.