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The COMPLETE Spyware Quake/SpywareQuake removal guide

Posted By The PC Doctor On 26th March 2006 @ 13:15 In [Stay Secure](#) | [No Comments](#)

NEW!!! - Free PDF download - [1] [How to Remove Spyware Quake.](#)

First of all I'd like to thank everyone who sent me a note telling me that these instructions work - it's good to know that not only are they correct but that they are easy to follow too.

If you are coming here and you have Spyware Quake on your system then I suggest that you print out the steps below and follow them carefully (I've created a [2] [PDF which contains instructions on removing Spyware Quake](#) that you can download in case that's easier for you to follow and print). Missing out a step can mean that you end up with Spyware Quake on your system at the end, which is an end result that you don't want.

It is vitally important that after removing SpywareQuake you scan your system for any other malware - this is to prevent re-infection.

Spyware Quake/SpywareQuake is a new fake antispyware application. Once installed (usually the installation is carried out by Trojans or using Windows vulnerabilities) on a PC it generates fake messages informing the user that the PC is infected with fake malware in an attempt to get the user to buy a commercial application.



There is also a Windows System Tray message generated:



Your computer is infected!
 Critical System Error!
 System detected virus activities. They may cause critical system failure. Please use antimalware software to clean and protect your system from parasite programs. Click here to get all available software.

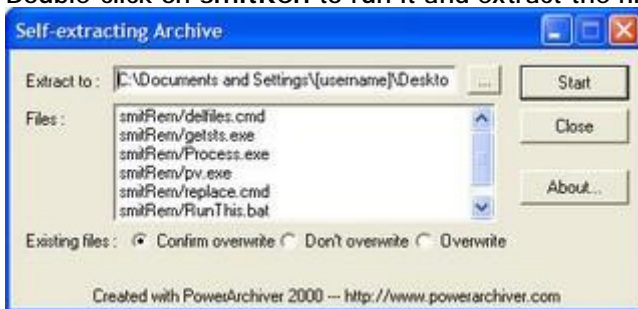
To remove Spyware Quake you need to download two tools:

- [3] [smitRem.exe](#)
- [4] [FixSQ.reg](#)

It's important to bear in mind that smitRem DOES NOT uninstall Spyware Quake – this is to uninstall portions of Smitfraud that is installed as part of Spyware Quake. Soon smitRem will be updated to include Spyware Quake and the uninstall will be far easier.

Spyware Quake Removal Instructions

1. Download [5] [smitRem.exe](#) and [6] [FixSQ.reg](#). Save both to your Windows desktop
2. Double-click on smitRem to run it and extract the files to your desktop.



3. Double-click on FixSQ.reg. When asked if you want to merge the information into your Windows registry, click Yes and then OK.
4. Now reboot your PC and start it in [7] [Safe Mode](#). This is an important step! If you allow the system to boot into Windows normally you will have to go back to Step 1.
5. Once your PC has booted into Windows enter Control Panel and double-click on **Add or Remove Programs**.
6. Find the entry for SpywareQuake and double-click on it and uninstall the application. **DO NOT** reboot the PC is prompted to do so!
7. Delete the following files and folders (some may not be present on your system):
 c:\windows\system32\nvctrl.exe
 c:\windows\system32\dfgrsrv.exe
 c:\windows\system32\mssearchnet.exe
 c:\windows\system32\stickrep.dll
 c:\program files\spywarequake\
8. Double-click on the smitRem folder on your desktop and run the file contained in

the folder called **RunThis.bat**. This program will then guide you through the uninstall process for any remaining components that are installed on your system. It will also automatically run Disk Cleanup to remove any remaining traces of the spyware.

9. Reboot your system and start it up normally.
10. Install/update your antivirus/antispyware applications and run a full system scan. If you aren't running any, [8] [get some!](#) Do not skip this step! At the very least run a free online scan at the [9] [Windows Live Safety Center](#) [¶].
11. Click on **Start > All Programs > Accessories > System Tools > Disk Cleanup**. Run a Disk Cleanup operation on the drive you have Windows installed onto (usually C drive). Remove all the temporary files and temporary Internet files to make sure that Spyware Quake is gone.
12. At the end of all this you might find that a few things are different. Your homepage might be a blank (about:blank) and your cookies containing login details for some websites might be gone. You will have to reset these as you use the system.

That's it! Your system should now be free of this annoying malware.

EDITED

2-spyware.com have released a [10] [removal tool for Spyware Quake](#) [¶] that seems to do the job nicely.

Sunbelt Software also have removal instructions [11] [here](#) [¶].

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URLs in this post:

- [1] How to Remove Spyware Quake: <http://www.pcdoctor-guide.com/wordpress/files/spywarequakeremove.pdf>
- [2] PDF which contains instructions on removing Spyware Quake: <http://www.pcdoctor-guide.com/wordpress/files/spywarequakeremove.pdf>
- [3] smitRem.exe: <http://www.bleepingcomputer.com/files/smitRem.php>
- [4] FixSQ.reg: <http://www.bleepingcomputer.com/files/reg/FixSQ.reg>
- [5] smitRem.exe: <http://www.bleepingcomputer.com/files/smitRem.php>
- [6] FixSQ.reg: <http://www.bleepingcomputer.com/files/reg/FixSQ.reg>
- [7] Safe Mode: http://www.pcdoctor-guide.com/wordpress/?page_id=624
- [8] get some: <http://www.pcdoctor-guide.com/wordpress/?p=146>
- [9] Windows Live Safety Center: <http://safety.live.com/>
- [10] removal tool for Spyware Quake: <http://www.2-spyware.com/remove-spywarequake.html>
- [11] here: <http://www.sunbelt-software.com/spyware/SpywareQuakeRemoval.html>
- [12] Spyware Quake: <http://technorati.com/tag/Spyware+Quake>
- [13] SpywareQuake: <http://technorati.com/tag/SpywareQuake>

Click [here](#) to print.