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Subject: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Zion](#) on Fri, 26 May 2006 22:31:02 GMT  
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well, it all started when XWIS started checking serials again. then it just got worse and worse.

i have been playing renegade for some time now but up until XIWS started checking serials i have been unable to connect to renegade. i have tried reinstalling renegade from the original disk and TFD and neither work. i have tryied the little fix of renaming WOLData.key to WOLData0.key and still no luck. unfortunatally, my windows has been bugged and i cannot access taskmanager, administriv tools or the registry editor so i cannot change the serial from their.

help would be greatly appreciated, Merovingian.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Titan\\_HQ](#) on Sat, 27 May 2006 19:50:46 GMT  
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Quote:unfortunatally, my windows has been bugged and i cannot access taskmanager, administriv tools or the registry editor so i cannot change the serial from their.

I know this is a longshot but i use win XP, and i had the same problem. I found the problem was a program called "Tweak-XP". if you have installed this or any program by "Totalidea Software" UNINSTALL IT NOW!! i had to re-install windows because by the time i figured out what the prob was it had srewed up my ctrl panel, search and admin tools.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [rc22fires](#) on Sat, 27 May 2006 20:55:34 GMT  
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Titan\_HQ wrote on Sat, 27 May 2006 15:50Quote:unfortunatally, my windows has been bugged and i cannot access taskmanager, administriv tools or the registry editor so i cannot change the serial from their.

I know this is a longshot but i use win XP, and i had the same problem. I found the problem was a program called "Tweak-XP". if you have installed this or any program by "Totalidea Software" UNINSTALL IT NOW!! i had to re-install windows because by the time i figured out what the prob was it had srewed up my ctrl panel, search and admin tools.

Oh that problem can occur from way more than just that file type. No matter what you install on your computer, whether it looks safe or not it may contain some type of spyware, adware, rootkits even.

Look, you people should really learn how to protect your computers.

I would suggest downloading all the anti-spyware programs you can get. Even if you have to do it illegally.

Oh and remember this, before installing anything on your computer float over the license agreement first. If there is none when installing then look on the site for something like it. Terms of service or end user license agreement.... i would continue this post but i fucking have to go.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [AmunRa](#) on Sat, 27 May 2006 21:17:13 GMT  
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oh yes, don't we all just LOVE trojans?

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Zion](#) on Sat, 27 May 2006 23:54:09 GMT  
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^^ well, i have: hijackthis, norton, lavasoft ad-aware, spybot search & destroy, and i think thats it.

i have run all of these and have found, overall, about 500 "bad/corrupted" files. all these have been fixed and still no luck. the problem is: "another program is using this file" but i dont know what that program is.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Goztow](#) on Sun, 28 May 2006 17:13:14 GMT  
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Merovingian wrote on Sat, 27 May 2006 19:54^^ well, i have: hijackthis, norton, lavasoft ad-aware, spybot search & destroy, and i think thats it.

i have run all of these and have found, overall, about 500 "bad/corrupted" files. all these have been fixed and still no luck. the problem is: "another program is using this file" but i dont know what that program is.  
did you run it in windows safe mode?

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

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Posted by [Zion](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 00:04:34 GMT

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unfortunatally, my BIOS dosent give me an option to run in windows safe mode. i really dont want to have to format it and reinstall everything. plus, i dont have the program "Tweak-XP" on my system.

another system utility i have lost controll of is "msconfig". aparently, i dont have it. its non-existent. well, im trying everything here and still no luck

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

Posted by [Goztow](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 11:02:44 GMT

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So when you keep clicking F8 during startup, you do not get the option of running windows in safe mode? That's a first.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

Posted by [Zion](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 11:54:05 GMT

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after starting up in windows safe mode i found the problem but i cannot fix it since this computer is a pre-fabricated system and came with a formatting disk. i dont have access to any administrative tools in "WSM" or in normal windows and the utility, 'msconfig' no longer exists. only alternative i have is to wait untill i get my new system and i will create a system restore point as soon as i have installed the new windows OS.

this results in me no longer playing renegade untill i sort it out but i think it may have something to renegade itself. i cannot access any of them (i have about 4 instances) and none work. i have been bugged through renegade in the past and sorted it with ad-aware but this one is clever.

unless anyone has anyother ideas i will be willing to try them out but fornow, im stuck

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

Posted by [Goztow](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 12:36:25 GMT

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format c: ?

Nothing beats a good ol' format!

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

Posted by [Zion](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 15:34:46 GMT

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i would but there are consequences like:

1: i'd lose 80g's worth of data half of which is worth thousands of pounds and if i lost it i would cry, i mean really burst out crying.

2: everything i have made for RA2:Apoc Rising will be lost and only i have the copy of what i produced.

3: i can't be bothered/can't remember what i installed so i wouldn't be able to get everything back.

4: i have registrations with 3dsmax studios (autodesk) and mirc which i'll lose too.

5: not to mention the 70-or-so contacts which i'd lose too from msn.

another alternative is to get a tiny HDD, 20gb or so, and install windows from there but it's like £200+ for it, windows not the HDD.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

Posted by [cmatt42](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 16:29:13 GMT

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So back up everything and reformat.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

Posted by [Zion](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 17:02:48 GMT

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i'd do that too but it will cost money. i'm saving up for my room (converting the loft/attic) and my new computer (<that's gonna be about £2-3000).

it's not that serious, just stops me from playing renegade \*starts weeping\* and from accessing taskmanager and stuff \*sniffs away the tears\*

i appreciate all of your help, all of everyone's help and wish you all good renegading/APB'ing/Reborn'ing (when it's released) and apoc'ing (when that's released too)

Merovingian

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error

Posted by [Goztow](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 17:55:57 GMT

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Trust me: sooner or later it will stop your i'net from working. Better reinstall now that you didn't loose anything valuable yet and still can backup everything.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Zion](#) on Mon, 29 May 2006 18:10:27 GMT  
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well considering ive had it for a month and it hasnt done jack im trusting my comp right now plus ill be going to pcworld soon so ill get a 200gb ex HDD to backup the bad thing is its gona' be about £200 more for windows but it will be one less thing for my new comp. if it does stop my internet from working then i stil wont be able to connect to renegade plus i would sort it out indefinately.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [rc22fires](#) on Wed, 31 May 2006 00:50:26 GMT  
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Cool, I hope your mod gets done, looks cool.

Anyway, all those reasons not to format are good except the MSN one lol, you keep all your contacts when you format. It's not stored on your computer.

I can't wait to see your mod, I love testing new mods. I just started a mod for Yuri's revenge called Command & Conquer: The Merger

It will have a story line and everything, it will bring most of C&C together. Exlucding Generals of course. Impossible to do that, also has nothing to do with other C&C games. And since Kane sightings are in Red Alert this mod will be all in all based apon things and not random crap. You will see other things never before seen in a RA2/YR mod. Like I am doing voice overs, also I am doing this as a survice to others developing mods. This mod will have even it's own intro movie.

Well, this isn't really the place to discuss this. I just love modding C&C!

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Zion](#) on Wed, 31 May 2006 16:29:51 GMT  
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well, i get a new HDD (200gb external) so im backing up right now. then ill be formatting as soon as i get my router up and running.

as for the mod, its going great and really fast. were on moddb (dont know link from the top of my head) and theres some cool pics in there too. also, our forums is the main place for activity and news. glad you like it and i think it will rock

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [danpaul88](#) on Wed, 31 May 2006 22:29:48 GMT  
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tweak-xp ? sounds like some kind of crappy imitation of the microsoft tweak-ui tool...

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Mortus Est](#) on Thu, 01 Jun 2006 00:33:14 GMT  
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Merovingian wrote on Sat, 27 May 2006 08:31my windows has been bugged and i cannot access taskmanager, administrative tools or the registry editor so i cannot change the serial from their.

I had something similar happen to me before.

It was a shitty virus which copied and altered some of the control exes like cmd and regedit, try copying working versions of the programs that are not working from another computer.

Also try running the taskmanager directly from the windows folder:  
C:\windows\system32\taskmgr.exe in case something is screwing with the ctrl,alt,del shortcut.

If you still cant get taskmanager to work but want to see whats running etc, go to google and search for "Security Task Manager" @ [www.neuber.com/taskmanager/](http://www.neuber.com/taskmanager/).

It shows EVERYTHING thats running plus memory and cpu usage and allows task termination and a "quarantine" that stops programs you think are suspicious from running.

It is possible to edit the registry without using regedit and I can post more details if you know what bit in the registry you want to change.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Zion](#) on Fri, 02 Jun 2006 00:22:45 GMT  
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well isnt this sewll. i cannot format whatsoever. last alternative. buy a small HDD and use it for windows.

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Goztow](#) on Fri, 02 Jun 2006 06:29:57 GMT  
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If you boot your computer from your Win XP disc (cold reboot) then it seems impossible to me to not be able to format

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Subject: Re: "invalid serial" error  
Posted by [Zion](#) on Fri, 02 Jun 2006 13:51:52 GMT  
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well, since its a pre-fabricated system it didnt come with a winXP disk. it did come with the disk for the dirvers of the inbuilt sound card and VGA etc etc. i tried the "cold boot" but it came up with some symnatec error (but thats norton AV/FW, wth does that have to do with booting?) well. most, if not all administrive tools have been disabled (inc command prompt) and it will need to be remasterd.

when i tried to format it in WSM (win safe mode) it said: "another process is using this drive and it cannot be formatted. do you want to force dismount this drive?" i clicked "y" and it said: "dismount error, format has not been initiated"

well, at least it being fixed... hopefully

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