

# THE REGISTRY

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## WHAT IS THE REGISTRY?

- THE WINDOWS REGISTRY, USUALLY REFERED TO AS JUST THE REGISTRY, IS A COLLECTION OF DATABASES OF CONFIGURATION SETTING IN MICROSOFT WINDOWS OPERATING SYSTEMS.

## WHAT IS THE REGISTRY USED FOR?

- THE WINDOWS REGISTRY IS USED TO STORE MUCH OF THE INFORMATION AND SETTINGS FOR SOFTWARE PROGRAMS, HARDWARE DEVICES, USER PREFERENCES, OPERATING SYSTEM CONFIGURATIONS, AND MUCH MORE
- NOT ALL PROGRAMS USE THE REGISTRY TO RUN

## FOR EXAMPLE:

- WHEN A NEW PROGRAM IS INSTALLED NEW ENTRIES ARE ADDED LIKE:
  - SPECIFIC LOCATIONS OF PROGRAMS
  - WHERE FILES ARE LOCATED
  - PROGRAM CONFIGURATION
  - PROGRAM SETTINGS
  - PROGRAM DEFAULTS

## HOW TO ACCESS THE REGISTRY

- THERE ARE TWO MAIN WAYS TO ACCESS THE REGISTRY.
- AT THE COMMAND PROMPT OR SEARCH BAR
  - regedit
- SELECTED APPLICATIONS
  - Access directly
  - Access indirectly

## BACKING UP THE REGISTRY

- IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO BACKUP THE REGISTRY BEFORE YOU GO INTO IT.
- YOU CAN BACKUP BY MANUALLY EXPORTING EITHER THE ENTIRE REGISTRY AT ONCE OR JUST SPECIFIC KEYS.
- CHANGES CAN TAKE PLACE DUE TO:
  - ERRORS IN KEY STROKES
  - ACCIDENTIAL ENTRIES
  - INTENTIONAL ENTRIES

## BACKING UP YOUR SYSTEM USING RESTORE POINTS

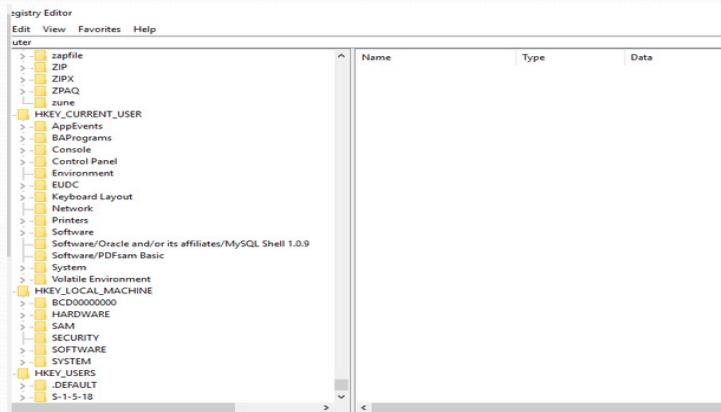
- CREATING A SYSTEM RESTORE POINT IS IMPORTANT.
  - A WAY TO BACKUP THE REGISTRY
  - BEFORE INSTALLING A NEW APPLICATION
    - IF THE APPLICATION CRASHES YOU SYSTEM YOU CAN HAVE A RECOVERY OPTION
  - BEFORE MAKING ANY MAJOR CHANGE TO THE SYSTEM
    - ADDING NEW HARDWARE
  - AT LEAST EVERY COUPLE OF MONTHS

## REGISTRY CLEANERS

- IT'S GOOD TO CLEAN THE REGISTRY OF OLD ENTRIES
- CLEANING OF THE REGISTRY CAN RESOLVE PERFORMANCE ISSUES IN THE MACHINE
- BACK THE REGISTRY UP BEFORE RUNNING SUCH A PROGRAM
- SOME COMMON ONES ARE CCLEANER, WISE REGISTRY CLEANER, JETCLEAN, AUSLOGICS REGISTRY CLEANER

# WHAT DOES THE REGISTRY LOOK LIKE?

## PARTIAL VIEW OF REGISTRY:



# CLOSER LOOK AT REGISTRY

- THE REGISTRY IS BROKEN OUT INTO A FOLDER LIKE CONSTRUCTION:
  - REGISTRY HIVES
    - HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE
    - HKEY\_CLASSES\_ROOT
    - HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER
    - HKEY\_USERS
    - HKEY\_CURRENT\_CONFIG
  - REGISTRY KEYS
    - SOFTWARE
  - REGISTRY VALUES
    - 1 OR 0

## OVER VIEW OF HIVES

- HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE
  - contains the majority of the configuration information for the software you have installed, as well as for the Windows operating system itself.
- HKEY\_CLASSES\_ROOT
  - registry hive that stores data about what programs open files with specific file extensions
- HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER
  - contains configuration information for Windows and software specific to the currently logged in user
- HKEY\_USERS
  - contains user-specific configuration information for all currently active users on the computer
- HKEY\_CURRENT\_CONFIG
  - contains low level commands that are usually named after their API designations

## GENERAL NOTES

- BACK IT UP
- SOMETIMES THE MACHINE DOESN'T BOOT BECAUSE OF A CORRUPTED REGISTRY
- THE MAIN REASON WHY MOST PROGRAMS CAN'T BE TRANSFERRED FROM ONE MACHINE TO ANOTHER
- DON'T TRY TO BE A HEART SURGEON

## BIO

- <https://www.lifewire.com>
- [HTTPS://WWW.QUORA.COM](https://www.quora.com)
- [HTTPS://WIKIPEDIA.ORG](https://wikipedia.org)
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