

Keep AI Out of Your Microsoft Office - Modified

Note: If you have the bat file created from the command in the original Keep AI Out of Your Microsoft Office article, replace that command with the following command which deletes the ai files in both 32 bit and 64 bit installs of Microsoft Office and runs even if the files are not at the Path of the delete command. If your ai files are stored in a different location, you must change the Path in the command to the Path address for your ai files.

What

Instructions to create a bat file of commands to delete specific Microsoft Office AI files which will prevent Microsoft Office AI from opening and functioning. Also included are instructions to create a scheduled task to run this bat file automatically and keep the AI function deactivated.

Why

Microsoft Office thru updates has installed a background running app called Artificial Intelligence (ai.exe) and associated AI files. The Office AI will launch when an Office application such as Word, Excel, Outlook, and PowerPoint is opened. This AI app will open as a separate process from the Office app. Open an Office app such as Word, open the Task Manager, and expand the Word process listed to show the AI process loaded. One explanation for the AI being a separate process is not to put the AI's CPU and RAM usage with the Office app's CPU and RAM usage. The exact function of what the AI app will do or how much CPU and RAM usage it will need has not been revealed. Currently the AI app loads into your RAM, but all my testing showed that it doesn't use the CPU or perform any function, resulting in using your RAM with no function performed. The amount of RAM currently used by the AI app is very small and should not be a problem for all systems except those low end systems with the bare minimum of RAM. Preventing the AI app from loading will free up that RAM and help with performance of such minimum RAM systems. Whenever Microsoft turns on the AI function (Microsoft didn't install it to load and do nothing), the RAM and CPU usage will increase and other users will benefit from preventing the AI app from loading, running, and using their resources.

How

Note: The instructions are based upon Windows 10 and the typical 32 bit and 64 bit Microsoft Office click-to-run installs.

Special Note: *Click the red colored text to view the screenshot and click the red here to return to the instructions where you were.*

- Verify that **ai.exe** is in the following folders:

For 32 bit installs to the Program Files (x86) folder:

- %ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX86\Microsoft Shared\Office16
- %ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX64\Microsoft Shared\Office16

OR

For 64 bit installs to the Program Files folder:

- %ProgramFiles%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX64\Microsoft Shared\Office16
- %ProgramFiles%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX86\Microsoft Shared\Office16
- If ai.exe is not in any of the above locations, you must edit the Path in the command for the ai.exe folder on your system.
- Open Notepad to a new document.
- Copy the following command all at once:

```
del "%ProgramFiles%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX86\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
del "%ProgramFiles%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX64\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
del "%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX86\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
del "%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX64\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
```

Each del command will be on a separate line in Notepad such as the example below:

```
del "%ProgramFiles%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX86\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
del "%ProgramFiles%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX64\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
del "%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX86\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
del "%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Office\root\vfs\ProgramFilesCommonX64\Microsoft Shared\OFFICE16\ai.*"
```

- Paste this command in the Notepad document so it starts on the first line of the page on the left margin. The command will delete the ai.exe and ai.dll files from any of those folders.
- Select *File > Save as* to open the Save as window. Choose a location to save the file. In *Save as file type*: select All files. Enter the name as **NoAI.bat** (the .bat must be part of the name).
- Now test the bat file to see it work. Use File Explorer to go to the NoAI.bat file, right click the file and select *Run as administrator* which will cause the UAC to open for you to click Yes to allow the command to run. It will appear as nothing happened, but use the first step above to go to those folders and see that the ai.exe and ai.dll files are gone. Note: All Office apps (and associated AI apps) must be closed so the commands can delete the ai files.
- The next Microsoft Office update, which will be silent as all of them are, may reinstall the ai.exe and ai.dll files. This will require you to run the bat file again (when you notice AI running again) to get rid of these files and keep AI from running. It is easier to set this running of that bat file to be ran automatically so you don't have to mess with it again.
- Creating a scheduled task to run this bat on a daily basis will make sure those files are deleted after any update reinstall and keep AI from running.

Create Scheduled Task to Run NoAI.bat

- Before creating a task to run the NoAI.bat file make sure you have the bat file stored where you plan on keeping it. I keep a separate folder to store "run" files. The bat file can't be moved once the task has been created.
- Open Task Scheduler by opening a Run box (WinKey + R), entering **control.exe schedtasks**, and pressing the Enter key.
- After Task Scheduler opens press and release the following keys in this order: *Alt, A, B*. This will open the Create Basic Task Wizard as shown **below**.

- Enter a name for the Task. The name cannot have any spaces in the it. Entering a Description of the task is optional, but over time we forget and so a brief description may help us in the future.
- Press Next to go to the next page in the wizard as shown **below**.
- Select *Daily* if not already selected.
- Press Next to go to the next page in the wizard as shown **below**.
- Enter a time each day for this Task to run. I chose 5:00 AM which is just before my regular use of the Office Apps to delete any ai files that may have been added thru an update the night before. It doesn't matter when the Task runs as this bat file will run in a few seconds on even the slowest of machines. May sure **1** is in the *Recur every: Days* box.
- Press Next to go to the next page in the wizard as shown **below**.
- Select *Start a program* if not already selected.
- Press Next to go to the next page in the wizard as shown **below**.
- Press the *Browse...* button to open an Explorer window to go to where you keep the bat file and select the bat file as the "program". After the selection the Explorer window will close and the Path address to that bat file will display in the box.
- Press Next to go to the next page in the wizard as shown **below**.
- Click the box next to *Open the Properties dialog for this task when I click Finish*.
- Select *Finish* which will open the task's Properties to the General tab as shown **below**.
- Click to select **Run with highest privileges**. This box must be checked for this bat file to run. Click the drop down arrow to the right of the *Configure for:* box and select *Windows 10*.
- Press the OK button to close the Properties box.
- Close Task Scheduler.
- That is it. Each day at the time you set the bat file will run in the background. If no AI files are there to delete, nothing will happen and if ai files are there they will be deleted without you even knowing about it and resulting in keeping AI out of your Office Apps.

Enter name for the Task

Enter Description is optional

Press Next for next page

Create Basic Task Wizard

Create a Basic Task

Use this wizard to quickly schedule a common task. For more advanced options or settings such as multiple task actions or triggers, use the Create Task command in the Actions pane.

Name: NoAI

Description: Runs bat file to delete Microsoft Office AI files

< Back Next > Cancel

Click [here](#) to return to your place in the instructions

Create Basic Task Wizard



Task Trigger

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Action

Finish

When do you want the task to start?

☒ Daily

☐ Weekly

☐ Monthly

☐ One time

☐ When the computer starts

☐ When I log on

☐ When a specific event is logged

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Select Daily
if not already
selected

Press Next for next page

Click [here](#) to return to your place in the instructions

Create Basic Task Wizard



Daily

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Daily

Action

Finish

Start: 2/27/24 5:00:00 AM ☐ Synchronize across time zones

Recur every: 1 days

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Enter time of
day Task
should run

Press Next for next page

Click [here](#) to return to your place in the instructions



Action

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Daily

Action

Finish

What action do you want the task to perform?

☒ Start a program

☐ Send an e-mail (deprecated)

☐ Display a message (deprecated)

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Select
Start a program
if not already
selected

Press Next for next page

Click [here](#) to return to your place in the instructions



Start a Program

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Daily

Action

Start a Program

Finish

Program/script:

"D:\Documents\Computer How Tos\XRun Files\NoAI.bat"

Browse...

Add arguments (optional):

Start in (optional):

< Back

Next >

Cancel

Click Browse
button to go to
where the bat file
is

Press Next for next page

Click [here](#) to return to your place in the instructions

Create Basic Task Wizard

Summary

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Daily

Action

Start a Program

Finish

Name: NoAI

Description: Run a bat file to delete Microsoft Office AI files.

Trigger: Daily; At 5:00 AM every day

Action: Start a program; "D:\Documents\Computer How Tos\XRun Files\NoAI.bat"

☒ Open the Properties dialog for this task when I click Finish

When you click Finish, the new task will be created and added to your Windows schedule.

< Back Finish Cancel

Select Open the Properties dialog for this task when I click Finish

Then

Click Finish

Click [here](#) to return to your place in the instructions

NoAI Properties (Local Computer)

General Triggers Actions Conditions Settings History (disabled)

Name: NoAI

Location: \

Author: DANA-HP\drcar

Description: Run a bat file to delete Microsoft Office AI files.

Security options

When running the task, use the following user account:

drcar Change User or Group...

☒ Run only when user is logged on

☐ Run whether user is logged on or not

☐ Do not store password. The task will only have access to local computer resources.

☒ Run with highest privileges

☐ Hidden

Configure for: Windows 10

OK Cancel

Select Run with highest privileges

Click drop down arrow and select Windows 10

Click OK to finish

Click [here](#) to return to your place in the instructions