



## Setting Windows to automatically update itself

For: WinXP/2000

### What are updates and why do them daily?

When Microsoft finds a flaw in their operating system, a problem that could potentially harm your computer by making it vulnerable to virus or other types of attacks, they fix it right away. However, it is up to the computer user to actively download and install those updates. This is why it is extremely important to do your Windows updates whenever they become available.

### Preventing these vulnerabilities

An easy way to prevent against the vulnerabilities is to set Windows to check for updates automatically and then download them when there are any. The few minutes it takes to set this up can save hours that it takes to fix the problems that would transpire.

### Setting up your system

::For WinXP::

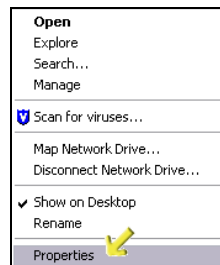
1) Locate "My Computer" either on your desktop:



or in your start menu:



and click with your right mouse button. From the menu that pops up choose "Properties" which will be the bottom option:



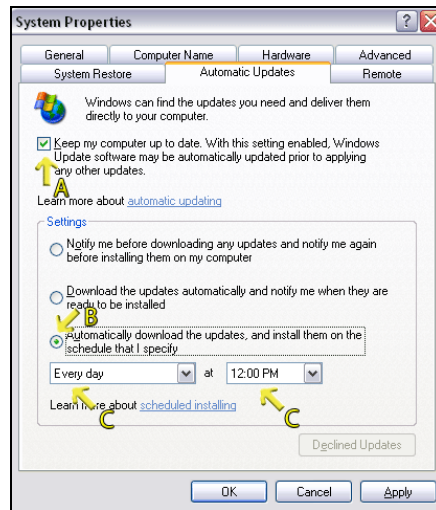
Once the System Properties box opens up click on the "Automatic Updates" tab located at the top-middle.

::For Win 2000::

Click on the start menu. Navigate to to "Settings" --> "Control Pannel." Double-click on "Automatic Updates."

2)

- The top check box, "Keep my computer up to date..." should be checked (A).
- The last radio button, "Automatically download the updates, and install them..." should be checked (B).
- Set the first pull-down menu to "Every day" and the time to a time you feel you will be around to restart the computer when they finish, such as "12:00 PM" (C).



3) Once you have changed these few things, click "OK" at the bottom and your system will automatically download your system updates for you. Once they are ready to install, Windows will install them at 12:00 PM (or the time you specified). Once it has finished install them, it might prompt you to restart your computer for the updates to take affect. Once you do this then your system will be up to date.