

## Speeding Up Your PC

After using a PC for awhile it is normal for it to get slower. There are two symptoms of this; boot speed and speed while running. Generally these problems are caused by different issues.

### Slow Running Speeds

I have found that the most common problem with slow PCs is disk fragmentation. This happens fairly frequently on PCs where the disk space is heavily used (more than 50%). this can normally be fixed by running a defrag program.

WinXP – Be prepared for this to run awhile. On a heavily fragmented drive it could take hours.

Click on the following: Start->Programs->Accessories->System Tools->Disk Defragmenter  
Click on C: then Click on Defrag

Win7 – Many experts say defragmenting is not need on Win7. This probably is because most Win7 PCs have huge disks and are not heavily used. Win7 automatically schedules a defragmenter to run once a week. I have found it in adequate. It's users interface tells you very little. I have run a third party defragment program immediately have the Win7 program and found there is fragmentation. If you think you need to run a defragment program on Win7 download one. There are many good ones. I use Defraggler from Piriform.

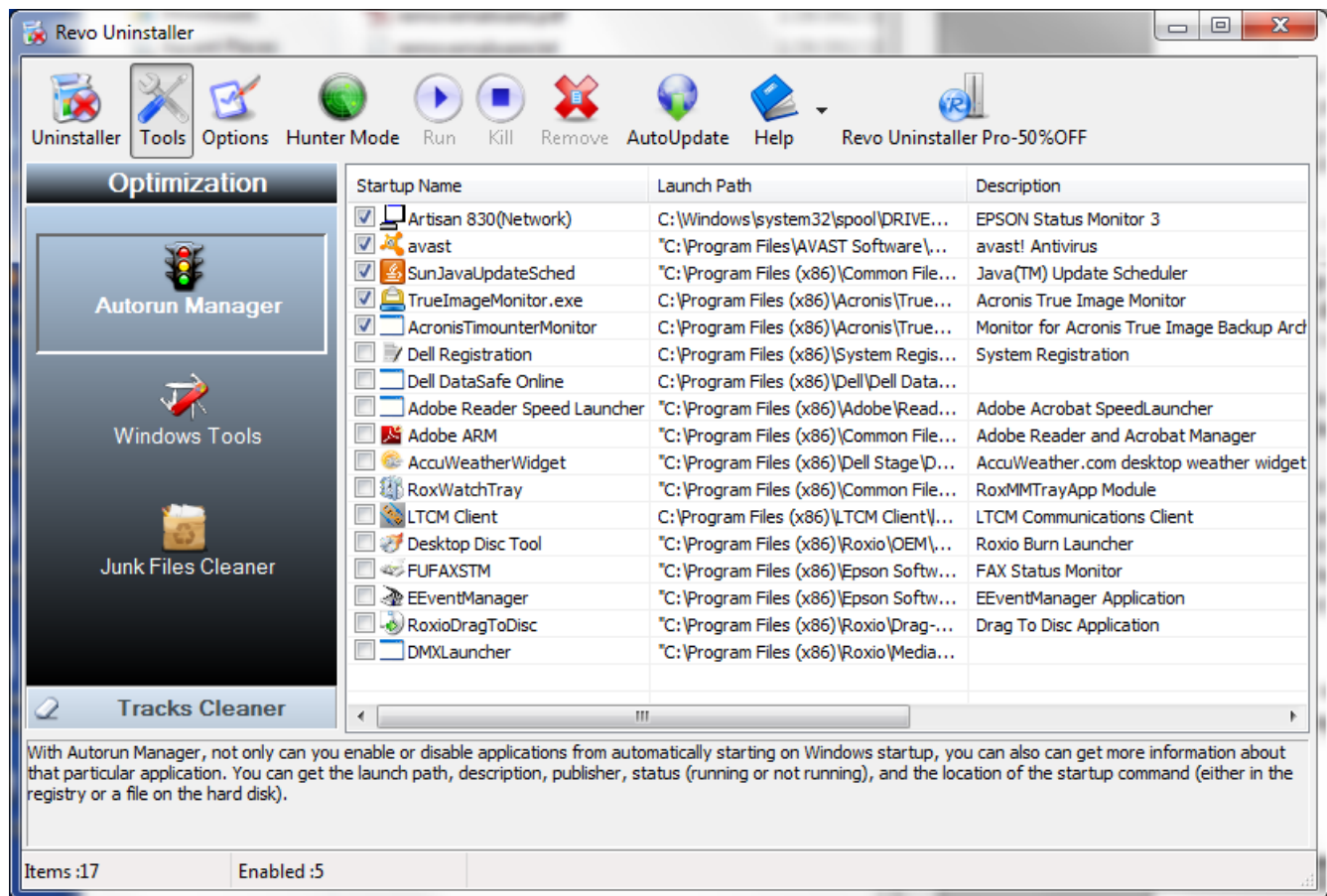
### Slow Boot

Slow booting is usually the result of too many programs loading at boot time. There are many ways that programs get added to the boot startup. Updates from many programs we use everyday will add things if you are not extremely careful to uncheck additional downloads. One example is Adobe Reader.

You can prevent these programs from starting automatically. You can use msconfig.exe that comes with the operating system but there is a better way, Revo Uninstaller. This is billed as a program to remove programs from your computer. It does this very well and works much better than the Microsoft add/delete program. I used that feature but it has another feature that I use to remove programs from the boot startup.

Go to the web site "[http://www.revouninstaller.com/revo\\_uninstaller\\_free\\_download.html](http://www.revouninstaller.com/revo_uninstaller_free_download.html)" and Click on the "Download " button underneath the free column. Download and install it.

Once it is installed double click the Revo Uninstaller icon on the desktop. It will bring you to the Uninstall screen. Click on the icon in the upper left corner labeled "Tools". On the next screen click on the icon on the left edge called "Autorun Manager". For some reason I find the new menu slow to come up, be patient. This screen lists most of the programs that get started when you boot your computer. Many of them do not need to be run. Here is my screen



You will see I unchecked many items; Adobe Reader Speed Launcher, Open Office and QuickTime for example. I've left a few items checked specifically Acronis. It needs to be run if you use its scheduling feature. If you find you uncheck an item and later that program is not working properly you can come back and check it. Also if you right click on an item you can Google it and see what it says about it. Sometimes you find good info on whether to not start it automatically or not. After making the changes you will need to re-boot for the changes to take affect.