

## Repairing Damaged Winsock2

The symptoms when Winsock2 is damaged show when you try to release and renew the IP address using IPCONFIG.

And you get the following error message:

*An error occurred while renewing interface 'Internet': An operation was attempted on something that is not a socket.*

Also Internet Explorer may give the following error message:

*The page cannot be displayed Additionally, you may have no IP address or no Automatic Private IP Addressing (APIPA) address, and you may be receiving IP packets but not sending them.*

There are two easy ways to determine if Winsock2 is damaged:

From the XP source files, go to the *Support / Tools* directory

### Winsock Test Method 1

Run *netdiag /test:winsock*

The end should say Winsock test ..... passed

### Winsock Test Method 2

1. Run *Msiinfo32*
2. Click on the + by *Components*
3. Click on the by *Network*
4. Click on *Protocol*
5. There should be 10 sections if the Winsock2 key is ok

MSAFD Tcpip [TCP/IP]  
MSAFD Tcpip [UDP/IP]  
RSVP UDP Service Provider  
RSVP TCP Service Provider  
MSAFD NetBIOS [\Device\NetBT\_Tcpip...]  
MSAFD NetBIOS [\Device\NetBT\_Tcpip...]

MSAFD NetBIOS [\Device\NetBT\_Tcpip...  
MSAFD NetBIOS [\Device\NetBT\_Tcpip...  
MSAFD NetBIOS [\Device\NetBT\_Tcpip...  
MSAFD NetBIOS [\Device\NetBT\_Tcpip...

If the names are anything different from those in this list, then likely Winsock2 is corrupted and needs to be repaired.

If you have any 3rd party software installed, the name MSAFD may be changed.

There should be no fewer than 10 sections.

### **To repair Winsock2**

1. Run Regedit
2. Delete the following two registry keys:  
  
HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Winsock  
HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Winsock2
3. Restart the computer
4. Go to Network Connections
5. Right click and select *Properties*
6. Click on the *Install* button
7. Select *Protocol*
8. Click on the *Add* button
9. Click on the *Have Disk* button
10. Browse to the *\Windows\inf* directory
11. Click on the *Open* button
12. Click on the *OK* button
13. Highlight *Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)*
14. Click on the *OK* button
15. Reboot