Subject: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by maschief on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 14:53:33 GMT

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In 3d multiplayer games my computer reboots itself, that's pretty much the problem...it has me utterly baffled. You all seem like your intelligent folk here, so I'm asking for help. What could the primary causes of this be? Thanks...

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Goztow on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 14:57:02 GMT

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CPU overheating. Check your fans.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Caveman on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 14:58:58 GMT

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And/Or Graphics card.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by maschief on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 15:27:38 GMT

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Thanks for the reply guys...I'm going to redo my Arctic silver application again...

I'm running at 48-55C temperature on the chip. The thing is, I can go into a single player game thats even more demanding on the CPU than the multiplayer games I play, yet they don't reboot.

For instance I can run splinter cell: chaos theory and not reboot even though its running 2-3 degress hotter than World of Warcraft...

This computer is a 1.8 amd athlon with radeon 9600 256 and 1.2 gigs of ram. I'm using Speedfan to monitor my temperature...

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by MexPirate on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 16:45:29 GMT

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Caveman wrote on Mon, 30 October 2006 08:58And/Or Graphics card.

Would be my guess, I am thinking that you have an ATI graphics card?? make sure you download

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and update the graphics drivers (believe ATI use some sort of program to manage graphics but can't remember the name of it)

EDIT: just spotted "Radeon" in your post, this is a pretty common problem with those cards and updating the drivers should sort it out - if not google is your friend, there are all sorts of support forums full of people having the same issues.

EDIT2: OK the program I was thinking about is called catalyst, you can check/update your graphics by visiting this site: http://support.ati.com which should resolve your issue.

Here is a post from someone experiencing the same problem:
http://www.techspot.com/vb/topic9816.html

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Jonty on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 16:59:32 GMT
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Whenever my PC restarts spontaneously while I'm playing Renegade, (not very often) Windows says that it's a driver that's causing the problem. (I have a GeForce 6200)

Now, working on the assumption that Microsoft Error Reporting is right, which probably isn't the case, it's my graphics driver that causes it.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Aprime on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 19:39:47 GMT
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Drivers, overheating, and if you have an AGP graphics card it's possible that you have FW (FastWrite) enabled (it renders most AGP cards unstable).

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Dave Anderson on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 20:24:45 GMT
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Quote:(believe ATI use some sort of program to manage graphics but can't remember the name of it)

Catalyst Control Center.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by jnz on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 22:38:43 GMT
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if it is spontaius, something is loose

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by MexPirate on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 23:45:53 GMT
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help-linux wrote on Mon, 30 October 2006 16:38if it is spontaius, something is loose

lol, linux has spoken.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Sniper_De7 on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 23:51:40 GMT
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I had bad memory once and it made my computer do this, but you should try the other
suggestions first. If you did something recently to your computer recently, than it most likely is the
problem.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by DarkDemin on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 02:05:40 GMT
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Check your power supply first.

Do you ever have problems with your computer starting up? Do the failures seem to come when
the highest demand is placed on the CPU and Graphics card? Intermittent failures are mostly due
to power supplies.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by maschief on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 08:07:56 GMT
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Thanks for your help guys!

Heres the steps I've taken so far:
I've compleltely purged and reinstalled my ATI drivers/catalyst.
I've reinstalled directx.
I've reinstalled my sound drivers.

I've done a complete scan using nod32, antivir, adaware, spybot s&d and spyware doctor.
I've checked the ram, by replacing them with sticks I know work.

Next step will be checking the PSU....

edit
Theres something I would like to add to this, because it is what confuses me the most about the problem: This ONLY happens in 3D multiplayer games...I can play 2D online games all I want, or windows based games like poker or whatnot, and it never, ever has done this when just surfing/normal windows usage...or playing any games, 2D or 3D without an online componet. The best example of this is I can play battlefield 2 with the bots in offline mode, but if I try to play it online...I restart. This is possibly one of the oddest things I've ever seen...(and I've seen alot of weird computer problems).

Just had to get that out there...thanks again all!

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by jnz on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 08:19:09 GMT
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thi has happebd to me before :/ but i can't remeber how i fixed it.

try re-installing windows (do it by booting form the windows cd)

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by maschief on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 12:42:45 GMT
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Going for an XP reset. I'll tell how that works out (haven't tried PSU yet)...

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by maschief on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 13:56:36 GMT
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I have reset XP, and still no go. Also I've found out that my spare PSU is too big for the case. I'm running out of options. I appreciate the help...

Thanks all...

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Caveman on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 14:56:23 GMT
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Whats the rating of your PSU and tell me what you have in your computer. All the hardware. This Inc's the HDDs and whatnot, Fans, Fans with LEDS. etc...

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Jonty on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 15:41:43 GMT
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maschief wrote on Tue, 31 October 2006 13:56 Also I've found out that my spare PSU is too big for the case.
You can always rig it up outside the PC with the side off, it's what I do in such situations.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Speedy059 on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 15:42:39 GMT
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maschief wrote on Mon, 30 October 2006 10:27
 I'm running at 48-55C temperature on the chip. The thing is, I can go into a single player game thats even more demanding on the CPU than the multiplayer games I play, yet they don't reboot.

48-55C seems kinda hot. The temperature on my CPU is always between 31-36C. You should check the airflow going into the computer, make sure everything is getting cooled off.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Scythar on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 17:09:15 GMT
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speedy059 wrote on Tue, 31 October 2006 10:42maschief wrote on Mon, 30 October 2006 10:27
 I'm running at 48-55C temperature on the chip. The thing is, I can go into a single player game thats even more demanding on the CPU than the multiplayer games I play, yet they don't reboot.

48-55C seems kinda hot. The temperature on my CPU is always between 31-36C. You should check the airflow going into the computer, make sure everything is getting cooled off.

Depends entirely of the model. My 2800+ Barton ran at 80C with the stock fan without crashing. I put some Artic Silver and a 3rd party fan and it's around 60C now. I even overclocked after that.

I'd try the spare PSU outside the case, just don't poke it too much when it's running

Make sure your current one is sufficient too, you can check your voltages easily with programs like Motherboard Monitor.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by MexPirate on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 17:39:08 GMT
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I would be pretty confident that it is an issue with you GFX card and also that is a software issue bearing in mind the circumstances it happens (and assuming your pc doesn't restart under other circumstances), as I understand it the computer restarts as a response to the error (a setting somewhere that can be changed to simply display an error message).

Make sure that the XP auto detect/install of device drivers isn't automatically reinstalling innapropriate drivers after you remove them as this is something that has caused issues for other people and the ATI software doesn't like being installed over the top of something else.

Searching for issues on google relating to your graphics card will bring up numerous other people who have had similar problems, unfortunately there doesn't seem to be a simple quick fix.

Good luck

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Speedy059 on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 18:56:49 GMT
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My computer was crashing everytime i would play renegade or load up a heavy program. This was because my bios was messed up, i had to flash the bios. I'm not saying this is the case for you, but it could be. Flashing the bios is pretty easy if you get the right tools. But just a thought, i'm not exactly sure what causes your computer to crash. But for me it was my bios not agreeing with my cpu.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by light on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 19:25:13 GMT
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Start -> Run
eventvwr

See if you can find us some errors that match the times your PC has been crashing.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by CarrierII on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 19:42:33 GMT

Thought I'd like to note: AMD's don't shutdown on overheat, they just melt themselves... :s

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Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by Caveman on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 20:05:59 GMT

CarrierII wrote on Tue, 31 October 2006 12:42Thought I'd like to note: AMD's don't shutdown on overheat, they just melt themselves... :s

Well when I over-clocked my AMD abit too high. It didn't melt it just wanted load anything that used CPU this sometimes included windows .

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by pulverizer on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 20:10:10 GMT

does it only happen when you play an online game? ifso, it might be your internet then? I've had that once with world of warcraft.

Subject: Re: Serious problem with computer reseting...help please.
Posted by JPNOD on Tue, 31 Oct 2006 21:44:35 GMT

CarrierII wrote on Tue, 31 October 2006 14:42Thought I'd like to note: AMD's don't shutdown on overheat, they just melt themselves... :s

Not anymore since AMD64 they don't Intel already had this protection in p3/4.

As for TS it would be handy if you would post some more information
OS, driver versions, pc spec's ecta.. it could be many things and the only way your going to find out is by stripping the pc if its hardwarematic.