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Finder crashes sporadically



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Author

skoone
 Junior Member



Joined: 19 Jun 2005
 Posts: 31
 Location: South Carolina

Message

Posted: Tue Jan 09, 2007 8:16 pm Post subject: Finder crashes sporadically



Hi guys....

I'm having an issue here that is becoming a major problem. I own a Mac Pro, and starting roughly about a week ago, I developed a problem where if I had two Finder windows open (in my specific case two folder windows), and if I were doing, say, moving files or whatever from one window to another, or if I tried to highlight a file in one of those windows, didn't matter which.. I left click one time to highlight, then right click to choose whatever.. the result is this: both windows would disappear, all icons including the dock disappear for about one second, then the icons plus dock return.. My two windows would not. It's like something crashed internally to OS X, then recovered. I have to go and re-open the two windows that I was working in.. I can re-attempt whatever it was that I was doing, and most likely I could do it, perhaps not.. Something has become unstable, and I have not changed or modified my system in any way. I have not installed any new software on my system, I have not downloaded anything system-specific from Apple, yet this issue has cropped up from out of nowhere. I know that I am not the only one recently suffering from this problem as I have found others elsewhere on similar Apple related forums (MacRumours, etc) that are experiencing the exact same issues, and not just on the Mac Pro. Other computers include Macbooks as well as Minis, so it isn't machine specific.. So I'm trying to branch out here to see if anyone else out there in Apple Land has noticed similar issues when working inside of Finder-type windows. I did a spotlight search, and found a Finder.crash log.. In it, there is a whole lot of stuff that I do not understand, however, there are snippets that I have copied from this log that I wish to share, hoping that someone out there might have some sort of knowledge as to what this means and could provide some sort of insight as to what is going on:

Version: 10.4.6 (10.4.6)
Build Version: 8
Project Name: Finder_FE
Source Version: 5292800

PID: 1966
Thread: 0

Exception: EXC_BAD_ACCESS (0x0001)
Codes: KERN_PROTECTION_FAILURE (0x0002) at 0x00000028

.....and this:

Version: 10.4.6 (10.4.6)
Build Version: 8
Project Name: Finder_FE
Source Version: 5292800

PID: 2027
Thread: 0

Exception: EXC_BAD_ACCESS (0x0001)
Codes: KERN_INVALID_ADDRESS (0x0001) at 0xfeffffff

.....and another one of these:

Version: 10.4.6 (10.4.6)
Build Version: 8
Project Name: Finder_FE
Source Version: 5292800

PID: 96
Thread: 0

Exception: EXC_BAD_ACCESS (0x0001)
Codes: KERN_PROTECTION_FAILURE (0x0002) at 0x00000261

I can provide much more if needed, however, I noted that much of this was capitalized, I assume intended to stand out for some reason. I suppose that I could approach Apple with this, to see if someone on a higher technical tier within the company could provide some insight.. This issue is becoming a major ordeal as I can hardly do anything with my personal files without OS X crashing on me, and I have to keep trying constantly over and over just to do something as simple as moving a file from one window to another. Other functionality of the computer appears fine, it's only when working within Finder.

I have tried resetting PRAM and SMC and everything that I can find to reset on the box to no avail.

Any thoughts out there??

Thanks,
Steve

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Doug Eldred
Senior Member



Core Duo
Owner

Joined: 28 Aug 2006
Posts: 412
Location: Colorado, USA

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Posted: Mon Jan 22, 2007 3:17 pm Post subject:

[quote](#)

A couple of things to try, if you haven't already:

* In Disk Utility, fix file permissions, and verify the startup disk. If you need to repair it, you can probably do it either live or from the Install DVD.

* Be sure that you've downloaded any patches from Apple

* The log snippets show 10.4.6; since 10.4.8 is current that seems odd, but it may be that Finder has a different version than the OS per se, or that there have been no Finder changes since 10.4.6.

Doug

Mac Mini Core Duo 1.66 GHz, 60 GB, 1 GB
Power Mac G5 1.8 GHz SP, 80 GB, 1.25 GB
MacBook Core Duo 2.0 GHz, 80 GB, 1 GB
HP PL4260N plasma TV

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robpayne
New Member



Joined: 31 Jan 2007
Posts: 2

[profile](#) [pm](#)

Posted: Wed Jan 31, 2007 12:25 pm Post subject: Finder Crashes Sporadically

[quote](#)

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You are the first person I've learned of who is having exactly the same finder crashes as I, first on my (one of two) mac mini's then on my Powerbook G4 17 inch laptop, then on the second macmini. You discribed the probem precisely! I have chased down many "rat holes" trying to uncover the source of the problem and to date have not had much luck. But after clean install of OX 10.4.8 and install of only a small portion of my 3rd party apps, have been finder crash free on a macmini and laptop for several days (see details below).

After several archive and installs, runing Disk Warrior and one clean install (after reformat and repartioning the drive) did not resolve this finder crash problem on macmini #1, I call apple. They quickly passed me on to an apple product specialist. He speculated that it was non-universal code that was somehow corrupting system files on my Mac-Mini and that I should do a clean install and judiciously insure everything I install is universal and then test after installing each component to see if the problem reappears. I started that process, but not long after that I noticed the same thing happening on my Laptop (after having done a clean install from scratch and rebuilding with all my various software apps).

Clearly not an intel native processor only problem. Then I noticed the same thing happening to MacMini #2...which had largely remained untouch through all my trial and error (exasperation) with macmini #1 and my laptop.

I only recently learned that what I was observing was in fact a "finder crash" and then recovery. I got this insight from Larry, the software developer for File Buddy. Larry suggested that if it was truly a software 3rd party issue, this non-apple software might be gumming up the works and causing this problem. He suggest clean install all apple software/updates, then test to see if the finder crashes; then install all apps which are drag and drop (i.e. do not require authentication) and test after each install to see if the finder crashes returns. Assuming no problems to that point, begin to install the apps that do require authentication. Since these apps are intrusive to the OS (that's why they require authentication) - one of these apps could be the source of the finder crash problem. I have started down this path on my Laptop and Macmini#1. Have only installed the apple apps and some primary (essential apps) for my current work project (like office, photoshop7) and so far no return of the finder crash. I've had to stop troubleshooting this issue and get back to work as tracking this down to this point put me many days behind in my "real work."

If I find out anything - I'll let you know. Please do likewise. My direct email is robpayne@mac.com.

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robpayne
New Member

Joined: 31 Jan 2007
Posts: 2



Posted: Wed Jan 31, 2007 12:44 pm Post subject: finder crashes Sporadically



Here is some related info I just came across:

Thursday, October 12 2006 @ 07:25 AM PDT
Mac OS X 10.4.8 (#11): Finder crashes, fixes;

Finder crashes when control-clicking (right-clicking) items, fix Some users have reported an issue where the Finder crashes when attempting to access contextual menu items by control-clicking (right-clicking) items.

In many cases, this issue is caused by the presence of contextual menu items that may have become problematic under Mac OS X 10.4.8.

Check the following folders:

~/Library/Contextual Menu Items/
/Library/Contextual Menu Items/

for recently added third-party items that could be causing the problem. Try temporarily removing all items, then logging out and back in (or restarting) and check for persistence of the freeze. If the problem is gone, add files back one-by-one to determine the culprit.

General Finder crashes -- re-apply combo updater If you are experiencing issues with general Finder crashes -- where the Finder displays an "Application not responding" message and the spinning pinwheel progress indicator is shown when hovering over the

Desktop -- you may be able to resolve the issue by simply re-applying the Mac OS X 10.4.8 combo updater (PowerPC or Intel).

Launched inadvertently application sent to background -- fix MacFixIt reader Chris Cheng reports an issue where any application that is launched (via the Dock, double-clicking on an icon in the Finder, etc.) is automatically sent to the background. Generally, a just-launched application is put in the foreground as the active app.

Chris writes:

"I am on a MacBook Pro 1.83Ghz with 1.5 GB of RAM running Mac OS X 10.4.8 and am having issues where when I open a program it immediately gets sent to the background, meaning that the Finder remains the active program. It's really annoying to have to toggle through other open apps to get to the one I just opened.

"My Dock is also doing weird things -- I have it on auto-hide and magnification is on, it's not coming out of hiding and the magnification doesn't work. I've repaired disk permissions, restarted, shut down and nothing seems to be working."

In many cases, this issue can be resolved by deleting the file: com.apple.finder.plist from the following directory:

~/Library/Preferences
then restarting.

[note, this is the Library folder inside your home user folder]

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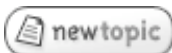
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