

# BACK UP YOUR WINDOWS REGISTRY WITH SYSTEM RESTORE

The Windows Registry is at the heart of the Windows operating system. The Registry is a group of system files formed into a database that contains system-level and application-level parameters on both a machine and a user basis. If the Registry were to become corrupted it could render your system unusable, so it's important to take regular backups of it so you can restore a good copy of the Registry if necessary.

## Why Do Registry Errors Occur?

Registry errors can occur when you've uninstalled programs, but some of their information stays in the registry. It could also occur when you don't shut down your computer correctly, or, most severely, it could be because of a virus.

The best way to protect yourself is to make a backup of the complete Registry. This can be done by creating a restore point, since the Registry is included in restore points. To create a restore point, follow these steps:

1. From the Search box near the left side of the taskbar, type *restore*.
2. Click *Create a restore point* from the list that appears in the column above.
3. Click on the *Create* button.
4. Select the Local Disk (under the Protection Settings group) and click the **Create** button. You will then be prompted to enter a description for the Restore Point. The date and time of the restore point you create will be inserted automatically.
5. At a later date, if you need to revert back to a restore point, follow steps 1 and 2 above and then click on the *System Restore* button.