

Windows XP Services Defined

Windows XP came out with a new configurable area. We'll be dealing with Windows XP services here. You will find these services in your Start, Programs menu named, "Administrative Tools". By Default Administrative Tools is not shown. You will have to enable it by opening Taskbar and Start Menu. Taskbar and Start Menu is accessible on the Classic Start Menu by clicking on Start, Settings, Taskbar and Start Menu. On the XP Start Menu you will have to get into the Control Panel and the Taskbar and Start Menu applet. Put a checkmark beside, "Display Administrative Tools. Click OK and then click on your Start, Programs, Administrative Tools and Services.

Service

Description

Dependencies

Startup
Type

Alerter:

Notifies selected users and computers of administrative alerts. If the service is stopped, programs that use administrative alerts will not receive them. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*If

you are connected to a network, set it to Automatic. This service will notify your System Administrator of problems occurring within the network which may aid them in fixing the problem.

Workstation

Disabled

Home user:

Automatic

Networked computer:

Application Layer

Gateway Service

Provides support for 3rd party protocol plug-ins for Internet Connection Sharing and the Internet Connection Firewall.

None

Disabled

Not using XP's firewall or connection sharing:

Automatic

Using XP's firewall or connection sharing:

Application

Management

Provides software installation services such as Assign, Publish, and Remove.

*Disabling this service may prevent configuration or removal of some software applications.

None

Manual

All users:

Ati HotKey Poller

*This allows an assortment of ATI hotkeys to be available. ATIMMC requires this to be in either Manual or Automatic to function. Disable if not needed.

None

Disabled

Automatic Updates

Enables the download and installation of critical Windows updates. If the service is disabled, the operating system can be manually updated at the Windows Update web site.

*I prefer manually updating my system as Microsoft doesn't always know what is good for my machine. Manual and Automatic update via Windows Update web site Requires Cryptographic Services to be running.

None

Disabled

Go to
Windows
Update Site often.

Automatic

XP will notify you of available updates.

Background

Intelligent

Transfer

Service

Uses idle network bandwidth to
transfer data.

*If
you have disabled "Automatic Updates" service, you won't need this service
running.

e.g.

Your "Automatic Updates" service sends information to Microsoft Windows
Update server about the present patches and fixes you have already
installed. The updater server reports back that you have updates to
perform. This is all done in the background.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Workstation

Disabled

If Auto Updates is disabled.

ClipBook

Enables ClipBook Viewer to store
information and share it with remote computers. If the service is stopped,
ClipBook Viewer will not be able to share information with remote
computers. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly
depend on it will fail to start.

*I've
had no problems with any application on my computer with having this
service set to Manual. If you are on a network of computers, your system
Administrator should know if you require this service.

Network DDE

Disabled

Manual

if unsure.

COM+ Event

System

Supports System Event

Notification service (SENS), which provides automatic distribution of events to subscribing Component Object Model (COM) components. If the service is stopped, SENS will close and will not be able to provide logon and logoff notifications. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Required

for System Event Notification.

If you disable this service,

you will find DCOM will create an event log noting this service is not running. To figure out if you need this service running or not, take a peek at your "X:\Program Files\ComPlus Applications" folder for any COM+ applications installed in there. If not, it's probably safe to Disable this service.

*BootVis

requires COM+ Event System & Task Scheduler if you want to take advantage of the system optimization features. Without these services you will add a couple of seconds to your bootup times. BootVis deals with prefetch settings and prefetching only occurs at bootup.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Manual

if unsure.

Computer

Browser

Maintains an updated list of

computers on the network and supplies this list to computers designated as browsers. If this service is stopped, this list will not be updated or maintained. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*This

service is not required by a home computer. you will still be able to browse your Network workgroup and mapped network shares if disabled.

Server

Workstation

Disabled

Cryptographic

Services

Provides three management services:

Catalogue Database Service, which confirms the signatures of Windows files; Protected Root Service, which adds and removes Trusted Root Certification Authority certificates from this computer; and Key Service, which helps enrol this computer for certificates. If this service is stopped, these management services will not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Windows

Updates service set to Manual or Automatic will require this service. Windows Media Player requires this service for some of its features to function.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Automatic

You won't have to remember to turn it on when necessary.

Disabled

Power User setting

DHCP Client

Manages network configuration by registering and updating IP addresses and DNS names.

*If

your Internet Service Provider, (ISP) supplies a Dynamic IP Address when ever your machine requires a connection to the Net, set this to Automatic.

If your Internet Service Provider, (ISP) has given you a Static IP, you can disable this service. Test it out and see if you are unsure.

AFD Networking Support Environment

NETBios Over Tcpip

TCP/IP Protocol Driver

Disabled

Static IP address

Automatic

Dynamic IP address

Distributed Link Tracking Client

Maintains links between NTFS files within a computer or across computers in a network domain.

*e.g.

If I create a file and store it on my computer and then create a shortcut to the file and then later on move the file to another computer on the network, this service tracks the change and lets the shortcut know of the new location.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Distributed

Transaction

Coordinator

Coordinates transactions that span multiple resource managers, such as databases, message queues, and file systems. If this service is stopped, these transactions will not occur. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Message Queuing requires this service.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Security Accounts Manager

Disabled

DNS Client

Resolves and caches Domain Name System (DNS) names for this computer. If this service is stopped, this computer will not be able to resolve DNS names and locate Active Directory domain controllers. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Required
if using IPSEC. If multiple domains are used within a network, set to Automatic.

TCP/IP Protocol Driver

Disabled

EPSON Printer Status Agent2

Lets you know when you are running out of ink.

*When
you start to run out of ink, can you tell the difference? I can.

None

Disabled

Error Reporting

Service

Allows error reporting for services and applications running in non-standard environments.

*This
one is up to you. If you get a error while working in one of your applications, a dialogue box pops up and asks if you would like to tell Microsoft your problems. All pertinent information on the error will be logged and sent to Microsoft. Waste of my time if you ask me.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Event Log

Enables event log messages issued by Windows-based programs and components to be viewed in Event Viewer. This service cannot be stopped.

None

Automatic

Fast User Switching

Compatibility

Provides management for applications that require assistance in a multiple user environment.

Terminal Services

Automatic

for a multiple user computer.

Disabled

for a single user computer

Fax

Enables you to send and receive faxes, utilizing fax resources available on this computer or on the network.

*This service isn't installed by default but is available off the Windows XP installation CD.

I send faxes very infrequently but I still want it available on this computer. I set it to Manual on my system.

Plug and Play
Print Spooler

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Telephony

Disabled

No Fax

Manual

Fax available on demand

FTP Publishing

Service

Used to provide a FTP server on your network.

*If

you aren't running a server from your machine, you won't need this.

IIS Admin

Disabled

Help and Support

Enables Help and Support Center to run on this computer. If this service is stopped, Help and Support Center will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*This

service is required for Microsoft Online Help documents. Attempting to access Help and Support after disabling this service will change the startup type to Automatic on this service.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Human Interface Device Access

Enables generic input access to Human Interface Devices (HID), which activates and maintains the use of predefined hot buttons on keyboards, remote controls, and other multimedia devices. If this service is stopped, hot buttons controlled by this service will no longer function. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Some

peripherals require this service. Internet keyboards with volume and play control buttons, scanners with fax or copy buttons. I don't have any of these kinds of peripherals so mine is disabled.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

IIS Admin

Usually used in conjunction with local web site or FTP servers.

*Not

installed by default. Crackers use this as a leak on your system. Leave Disabled if you don't need it.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Security Accounts Manager

Disabled

IMAPI

CD-Burning

COM Service

Manages CD recording using Image Mastering Applications Programming Interface (IMAPI). If this service is stopped, this computer will be unable to record CDs. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*XP

comes with burning software that allows drag & drop burning. If you have software installed that already has this feature, you can Disable it. Disabling this service can give you an improvement in burning speed as well. (So I've heard)

None

Disabled

Indexing Service

Indexes contents and properties of files on local and remote computers; provides rapid access to files through flexible querying language.

*This

is a resource hog. Either Disable it or even better, uninstall it using the Add/Remove Programs icon in the Control Panel.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Internet Connection Firewall (ICF) / Internet Connection Sharing (ICS)

Provides network address translation, addressing, name resolution and/or intrusion prevention services for a home or small office network.

*Not

very configurable. Kind of a lame excuse for a firewall. It's better than nothing.

Application Layer Gateway Service

Network Connections

Network Location Awareness (NLA)

Remote Access Connection Manager

Disabled

if you run a 3rd party firewall application

Automatic

if you want to use the XP Firewall

IPSEC Services

Manages IP security policy and starts the ISAKMP/Oakley (IKE) and the IP security driver.

*You might be on that rare domain that requires this service. Test out Disabling this service.

IPSEC Driver

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

TCP/IP Protocol Driver

Disabled

Logical Disk Manager

Detects and monitors new hard disk drives and sends disk volume information to Logical Disk Manager Administrative Service for configuration. If this service is stopped, dynamic disk status and configuration information may become out of date. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*If needed, a Manual setting will allow this service to start and stop when not needed.

Plug and Play

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Manual

Logical Disk Manager Administrative Service

Configures hard disk drives and volumes. The service only runs for configuration processes and then stops.

*Required by the MMC Console for dynamic volumes.

Logical Disk Manager

Plug and Play

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Manual

Machine Debug Manager

Manages local and remote debugging for Visual Studio debuggers.

*If you don't want to be dealing with the dialogue box asking you if you wish to debug the scrip on this, (not mine) page, Disable this service.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Messenger

Transmits net send and Alerter service messages between clients and servers. This service is not related to Windows Messenger. If this service is stopped, Alerter messages will not be transmitted. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Only set this to Automatic if you're connected to a Windows 2000/XP domain or network.

NetBIOS Interface

Plug and Play

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Workstation

Disabled

Message Queuing

*May be used on some domains. Not installed by default. Not available on XP Home.

Here is a link to

Message Queuing in Windows XP for a good description of this feature.

Distributed Transaction Coordinator

Message Queuing Access Control

NT LM Security Support Provider

Reliable Multicast Protocol
driver

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Server

Disabled

Automatic

if using this service

Message Queuing

Triggers

*See link above for information on this service.

Message Queuing

Disabled

MS Software Shadow Copy Provider

Manages software-based volume shadow copies taken by the Volume Shadow Copy service. If this service is stopped, software-based volume shadow copies cannot be managed. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Microsoft Backup requires this service.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Manual

Disabled

and test

Net Logon

Supports pass-through authentication of account logon events for computers in a domain.

Workstation

Disabled

NetMeeting Remote Desktop Sharing

Enables an authorized user to access this computer remotely by using NetMeeting over a corporate intranet. If this service is stopped, remote desktop sharing will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*This could be a security hole.

None

Disabled

Network Connections

Manages objects in the Network and Dial-Up Connections folder, in which you can view both local area network and remote connections.

*Disable this service if you aren't on the Net with your machine.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Automatic

Network DDE

Provides network transport and security for Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) for programs running on the same computer or on different computers. If this service is stopped, DDE transport and security will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Unless you use ClipBook remotely, Disable this service.

Network DDE DSDM

Disabled

Network DDE DSDM

Manages Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) network shares. If this service is stopped, DDE network shares will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Unless you use ClipBook remotely, Disable this service.

None

Disabled

Network Location Awareness (NLA)

Collects and stores network configuration and location information, and notifies applications when this information changes.

*Internet Connection Sharing Service, (server only) requires this server to be running. Disabled unless running ICS/ICF.

AFD Networking Support Environment

TCP/IP Protocol Driver

Disabled

NT LM Security Support Provider

Provides security to remote

procedure call (RPC) programs that use transports other than named pipes.

None

Disabled

Performance Logs and Alerts

Collects performance data from local or remote computers based on preconfigured schedule parameters, then writes the data to a log or triggers an alert. If this service is stopped, performance information will not be collected. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Combine the information that this service will produce in the performance log and System Monitor and you have some pretty technical info. Not really necessary IMO.

None

Disabled

Plug and Play

Enables a computer to recognize and adapt to hardware changes with little or no user input. Stopping or disabling this service will result in system instability.

*One of the basic natures of your operating systems of today are Plug and Play. Install a device or component and your system automatically detects it. Without this, your system will not ask for proper drivers to be installed. You will be left unaware that you have hardware configuration problems if not immediately apparent through normal operation of your machine. In other words, don't disable this baby!

None

Automatic

Portable Media Serial Number

Retrieves the serial number of any portable music player connected to your computer.

*I haven't heard of any device that requires this service yet.

None

Disabled

Print Spooler

Loads files to memory for later printing.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Automatic

Protected Storage

Provides protected storage for sensitive data, such as private keys, to prevent access by unauthorized services, processes, or users.

*This service is responsible for saving passwords using Auto Complete, Dialup Networking and Domain Controller/Server that requires authentication. I leave this one set to Automatic myself. You decide which is best for you.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Automatic

saves passwords

Disabled

more security

QoS RSVP

Provides network signalling and local traffic control setup functionality for QoS-aware programs and control applets.

*You will find this installed by default in any Network connection. Some applications can request the extra bandwidth made available by this service. Approximately 20%. When the bandwidth is no longer needed, it is returned to your systems available bandwidth. 100% is now available again. Disable this service if you have no need for the bandwidth redirect. Better still, uninstall it from your network connection.

More about this service.

AFD Networking Support Environment

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Remote Access Auto Connection Manager

Creates a connection to a remote network whenever a program references a remote DNS or NetBIOS name or address.

*Your internet connection may need this service running due to some ISP's logon processes. Test it out with Disabled. If your connection fails, set it to Automatic.

Remote Access Connection Manager

Telephony

Disabled

if not required for your connection.

Automatic

if required for your connection

Remote Access Connection Manager

Creates a network connection.

*Internet Connection Sharing requires this service and as above, your Internet connection may need this service running due to some ISP's logon processes. Test it out with Disabled. If your connection fails, set it to Automatic.

Telephony

Disabled

if not required for your connection.

Automatic

if required for your connection

Remote Desktop Help Session Manager

Manages and controls Remote Assistance. If this service is stopped, Remote Assistance will be unavailable. Before stopping this service, see the Dependencies tab of the Properties dialog box.

*This can be a handy service for the Newbie and the helpful Power User. If you don't plan on using this service, Disable it.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Provides the endpoint mapper and other miscellaneous RPC services.

*As you can see by the dependency column, lots of services depend on this service.

None

Automatic

Remote Procedure Call (RPC) Locator

Manages the RPC name service database.

*If your connection fails after Disabling this service, set it to Manual.

Workstation

Disabled

Remote Registry

Enables remote users to modify registry settings on this computer. If this service is stopped, the registry can be modified only by users on this computer. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*You will be able to modify your registry only from your computer. No remote computer will be able to gain access.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Removable Storage

Used for managing removable media.

*e.g.

Tape backup devices and CD-ROM's may not work properly if Disabled. Test it out and see.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Routing and Remote Access

Offers routing services to businesses in local area and wide area network environments.

NetBIOSGroup

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Secondary Logon

Enables starting processes under alternate credentials. If this service is stopped, this type of logon access will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

None

Disabled

Security Accounts Manager

Stores security information for local user accounts.

*If you use Group Policy Editor, (gpedit.msc) you must have this set to Automatic for your custom policy settings to work.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Automatic

if you use Group Policy Editor (gpedit.msc)

Server

Supports file, print, and named-pipe sharing over the network for this computer. If this service is stopped, these functions will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*If

you are on a network and have file and print sharing turned on, you will need this set to Automatic. Home users should Disable this security risk service.

None

Disabled

Shell Hardware Detection

*Some

actions require a device to be detected in order to produce. Such as playing a music CD. A CD-ROM device has to be found. Sorry for my vagueness on this one.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Manual

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol

*Supports

the use of a local (outbound) email server.

Not installed by default.

Event Log

IIS Admin

Disabled

Simple TCP/IP Service

*Supports

UNIX Networking services.

Not installed by default.

AFD Networking Support Environment

Disabled

Smart Card

Manages access to smart cards read by this computer. If this service is stopped, this computer will be unable to read smart cards. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*In a Network of computers you might have a Smart Sard installed for Network Authentication. If you don't have any Smart Cards installed, Disable this service.

Plug and Play

Disabled

Smart Card Helper

Enables support for legacy non-plug and play smart-card readers used by this computer. If this service is stopped, this computer will not support legacy reader. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*No Smart Card? Disable this service.

None

Disabled

SNMP Service

Supports the use of networking equipment that use SNMP as a mode of management.

*Not installed by default

Event Log

Disabled

SNMP Trap Service

Supports the use of networking equipment that use SNMP as a mode of management.

Event Log

Disabled

SSDP Discovery Service

Enables discovery of UPnP devices on your home network.

*If you don't have any of these devices, disable it. If you do have home networking devices set up, test it out on Disable. If any device stops working, set to Automatic.

None

Disabled

System Event Notification

Tracks system events such as Windows logon, network, and power events. Notifies COM+ Event System subscribers of these events.

*This service will notify and log events such as logon's and power problems. Most of us couldn't care less about this information.

COM+ Event System

Disabled

System Restore Service

Performs system restore functions. To stop service, turn off System Restore from the System Restore tab in My Computer, Properties, System Restore tab.

*2 schools of thought on this one. Some think it's a resource hog. It will create a new restore point every time you install a new program. The restore point is as big as your amount of RAM you have installed. You can remove old restore points if you want as to not use up to much of your hard drive space.

I like it. before I do some kind of major hacking to my system or install some kind of beta ware, I create a restore point to return to if need be. Multiple partitions with multiple O/S's? Turn off System Restore on all drives except Windows XP's partition.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Automatic

Disabled

If you like to do a fresh install if problems occur.

Task Scheduler

Enables a user to configure and schedule automated tasks on this computer. If this service is stopped, these tasks will not be run at their scheduled times. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*BootVis,
Anti virus program auto updates, added maintenance routines, Windows XP prefetch, Windows Updates service, are a few of the programs and services that won't start if Disabled. I do everything manually so I Disable this service.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

TCP/IP NetBIOS Helper

Enables support for NetBIOS over TCP/IP (NetBT) service and NetBIOS name resolution.

*If
NetBios or WINS is not implemented on your network, Disable this service.

AFD Networking Support Environment

NetBios over TCP/IP

Disabled

Telephony

Provides Telephony API (TAPI) support for programs that control telephony devices and IP based voice connections on the local computer and, through the LAN, on servers that are also running the service.

*Dialup
Networking depends on this service to be running. If you are on Cable or DSL, test Disabled. If your connection fails, set to Automatic.

Plug and Play

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Telnet

Enables a remote user to log on to this computer and run programs, and supports various TCP/IP Telnet clients, including UNIX-based and Windows-based computers. If this service is stopped, remote user access to programs might be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*This service isn't available on XP Home.

Disable this one as it could pose a security risk.

NT LM Security Support Provider

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

TCP/IP Protocol Driver

Disabled

Terminal Services

Allows multiple users to be connected interactively to a machine as well as the display of desktops and applications to remote computers. The underpinning of Remote Desktop (including RD for Administrators), Fast User Switching, Remote Assistance, and Terminal Server.

*If you don't use any of these features, Disable this service. This service could pose a security threat as well.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Themes

Provides user experience theme management.

*If you use the themes provided by the XP O/S, set this one to Automatic. If you don't like the colours and animations, Disable. If you want to shut down most of the resource wasting in the themes, Turn

Off The Fluff!

None

Automatic

if you use themes.

Disabled

If you don't.

TrueVector Basic Logging Client

Writes alert text to a log file.

*Required
by Zone Alarm

TrueVector Internet Monitor

Automatic

TrueVector Internet Monitor

Monitors internet traffic and
generates alerts for disallowed access.

*Required
by Zone Alarm

AFD Networking Support Environment

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

vsdatant

Automatic

Uninterruptible Power Supply

Manages an uninterruptible power
supply (UPS) connected to the computer.

*If
you use a Uninterruptible Power Supply, (UPS) leave this set to Automatic.

None

Disabled

Universal Plug and Play Device Host

Provides support to host Universal Plug and Play devices.

*Some multiplayer games using Direct 7/8 require this service to be running. If this applies to you, set it to Automatic. Otherwise, Disable this service as it poses a possible security risk.

SSDP Discovery Service

Disabled

Upload Manager

Manages synchronous and asynchronous file transfers between clients and servers on the network. If this service is stopped, synchronous and asynchronous file transfers between clients and servers on the network will not occur. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*You won't need this one. Most Networks will have their own application that will take care of this one. FTP is the norm.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Volume Shadow Copy

Manages and implements Volume Shadow Copies used for backup and other purposes. If this service is stopped, shadow copies will be unavailable for backup and the backup may fail. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*This service is used with Microsoft Backup. If you don't use Microsoft Backup, Disable this service. If unsure, set to Manual.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Manual

if unsure.

WebClient

Enables Windows-based programs to create, access, and modify Internet-based files. If this service is stopped, these functions will not be available. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*It's been rumoured that DOT NET may require this service.

WebDav Client Redirector

Disabled

Windows Audio

Manages audio devices for Windows-based programs. If this service is stopped, audio devices and effects will not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Don't Disable this one unless you don't have a sound card installed.

Plug and Play

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Automatic

Windows Image Acquisition (WIA)

Provides image acquisition services for scanners and cameras.

*If you Disable this service and your camera or scanner fails to function, set this to Automatic.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Automatic

If problems occur

Windows Installer

Installs, repairs and removes software according to instructions contained in .MSI files.

*If
you set this service to Manual, it will start when needed.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Manual

Windows Management Instrumentation

Provides a common interface and object model to access management information about operating system, devices, applications and services. If this service is stopped, most Windows-based software will not function properly. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

Event Log

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Automatic

Windows Management Instrumentation
Driver Extensions

Provides systems management information to and from drivers.

None

Manual

Windows Time

Maintains date and time synchronization on all clients and servers in the network. If this service is stopped, date and time synchronization will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

*Instead
of using resources I set my clock manually when needed. I don't run the clock in the taskbar as it uses up valuable real-estate on the taskbar. I modified my case to accommodate a

digital clock on the front instead.

None

Disabled

Wireless Zero Configuration

Provides automatic configuration for the 802.11 adapters.

*If you don't have a wireless network setup, you can disable this service.

NDIS Usermode I/O Protocol

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

WMI Performance Adapter

Provides performance library information from WMI HiPerf providers.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC)

Disabled

Workstation

Creates and maintains client network connections to remote servers. If this service is stopped, these connections will be unavailable. If this service is disabled, any services that explicitly depend on it will fail to start.

Very important service.

None

Automatic