

Explorer does not sort alphabetically on opening (Windows 95/98)

This is one of the most infuriating Windows 95/98 problems when it occurs – here it is : you open Explorer (Windows Explorer) and files are not sorted in alphabetical order. You sort them alphabetically by clicking on the Name column, use Explorer to do what you need to do, close it when you have finished, and damn, the next time you open it the files are still sorted in a different order, by date, extension, reverse alphabetical, but just not in alphabetical order. No matter what you try, every time you re-open Explorer it is again not in alphabetical order !

In most cases this problem occurs after the end-user used Explorer in a non-alphabetical sorting mode and then exited Explorer while still in that mode.

There are two ways of curing the problem, the Answers That Work method, and the Microsoft method. Our method has always worked for us, but we have also heard good reports about the Microsoft method. **Our method does have the major advantage, however, that you do not need to restart your computer for it to work.** Here are both methods :

The Answers That Work method

- While in Explorer choose the **View \ Large Icons** menu option.
(Note, it has to be the "Large Icons" option - while it also works with the "Small Icons" option we have noticed that it is not as reliable as choosing the "Large Icons" option).
- Close Explorer.
- Re-open Explorer.
- Choose the **View \ Details** menu option.
- Sort the display in alphabetical order by clicking on the **Name** column.
- Close Explorer.
- Re-open Explorer.
- You're done.** From now on Explorer will once again always re-open in alphabetical order.

The Microsoft method

- Right-click the **Start** button.
- Choose **Explore**.
- Click on drive **C:** in the left pane of Explorer.
- Choose the **View \ Details** menu option.
- Sort the display in alphabetical order by clicking on the **Name** column.
- Hold down the **Ctrl** key and then close Explorer through the top right-hand corner, and through no other method.
- Release the **Ctrl** key.
- Restart your PC.**
- You're done.** Note that all the above steps have to be performed exactly as described otherwise it will not work.

ooooooooOOOOOOoooooooo