

“MSVCIRT.DLL linked to missing export MSVCRT.DLL” problem

The Problem

You boot your PC and you get a message window which states :

The MSVCIRT.DLL file is linked to missing export MSVCRT.DLL:??_U@YAPAXI@Z

No matter what you do, that message window keeps coming back with the same error message.

The Cause

In almost all cases that this happens it is as a result of having just installed some software.

This problem is specific to Windows 95 and Windows 98 and occurs as a result of the software you just installed having replaced your **MSVCIRT.DLL** file with a newer one of the type used in Windows Millennium Edition. Typically the software you installed will have replaced a version 6.0.xxxx of the file with a version 6.1.xxxx. The newer file works in Windows Millennium Edition, but is often too new for Windows 95/98.

The reason you cannot get rid of the message is that Windows itself and almost all programs make use of both MSVCIRT.DLL and MSVCRT.DLL, so the error condition is encountered continuously.

The Solution

The solution which works in most cases is simply to replace **MSVCIRT.DLL** with a 6.0.xxxx version of the file. To do that, do as follows :

- Close all programs.
- Start Windows Explorer.
- Drill down to the **C:\Windows\System** folder.
- Locate **MSVCIRT.DLL**.
- Right-click on **MSVCIRT.DLL** and rename it to **MSVCIRT.DLL.NEWER**
- Go to www.ATWLIBRARIES.com , then into the “**Windows 95 & 98**” section, and run the **MSVCIRT.EXE** that you will see on that page. Read all the screens properly when running that file. At the end of the process you will have unzipped a replacement MSVCIRT.DLL into “C:\Windows\System”.
- Shutdown and restart your PC.
- In 98% of cases this solves the problem and you no longer get the error message window on reboot.
- You're done.**

Notes :

- 1) The file **MSVCIRT.DLL**, which you download from our website is Copyright © of Microsoft Corporation. You should only use it on a system with a legal licensed copy of Windows 95 or Windows 98.
- 2) On Windows 98 systems, the recommended method for restoring MSVCIRT.DLL is through SFC, the System File Checker. In practice, however, we have found that SFC restores a slightly older version of MSVCIRT.DLL than desirable, which is why, even on Windows 98 systems, we recommend using the method described in this document.
- 3) The above solution does not work in 100% of cases. If it does not work for you, contact us before attempting other corrective actions.

Tell them off !!

This is possibly the most important part of the recovery process ☺ !

Through lack of thorough testing of their automated installation procedure, the manufacturers of the software you installed caused you this nightmare. Do not let get them away with it (as many do) ! Register a complaint with them, and let us know too, as we may be able to put pressure on them to correct their problematic installation system.

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