

nssm.exe Windows process - What is it?

By Iian Patterson

Archived: 2026-04-06 00:24:02 UTC

The genuine *nssm.exe* file is a software component of *NSSM* by . Non-Sucking Service Manager is a service manager for Microsoft Windows. *Nssm.exe* launches the Non-Sucking Service Manager program. This is not an essential Windows process and can be disabled if known to create problems. *NSSM* is a free utility that manages background and foreground services and processes. The program can be set to automatically restart failing services. The program also logs all progress in an Event Log, making it easier to identify applications that aren't behaving as they should. Iian Patterson is a programmer that develops Windows utility and networking programs such as *Remoteactions*, *Logrotate*, *Inkedit*, *Layered Window*, *Ofpsounds*, *NSSM* service helper, and *Kerberos*.

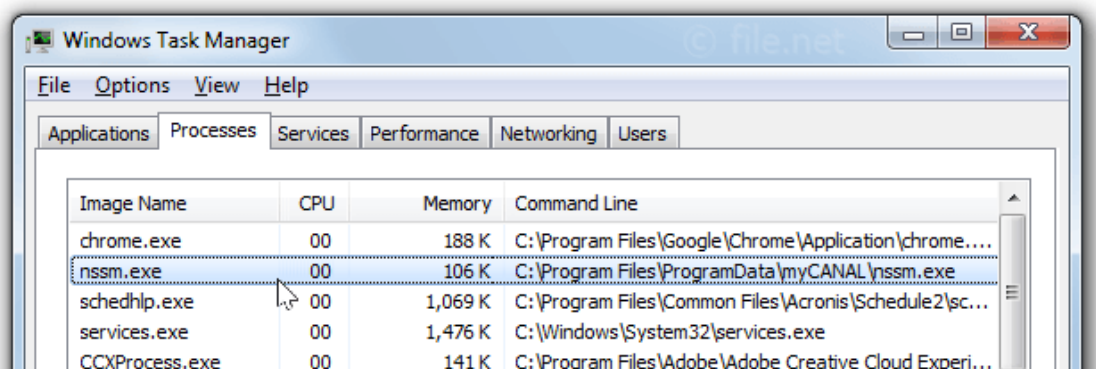
NSSM stands for The Non-Sucking Service Manager launcher

The .exe extension on a filename indicates an executable file. Executable files may in some cases harm your computer. Therefore, please read below to decide for yourself whether the *nssm.exe* on your computer is a Trojan that you should remove, or whether it is a file belonging to the Windows operating system or to a trusted application.

[Click to Run a Free Scan for nssm.exe related errors](#)

Since 2005, file.net has helped users better understand and correctly identify Windows processes. Our own analysis, research, and the collective experience of our community provide reliable, easy-to-understand information. Around 10,000 users trust us every day.

Nssm.exe file information



Nssm.exe process in Windows Task Manager

Description: Nssm.exe is not essential for Windows and will often cause problems. Nssm.exe is located in a subfolder of the user's profile folder or sometimes in a subfolder of the user's "Documents" folder—mostly `C:\Users\USERNAME\AppData\Roaming\` or `C:\Users\USERNAME\AppData\Local\Host Service\`. Known file sizes on Windows 10/11/7 are 294,912 bytes (98% of all occurrences), 338,944 bytes and [4 more variants](#). It runs as service `clr_optimization_v1.0.2` in the background: Microsoft .NET Framework NGEN. The program is not visible. It is not a Windows core file. There is no file information. Nssm.exe is able to monitor applications. Therefore the technical security rating is 73% *dangerous*, but you should also take into account the user reviews.

Uninstalling this variant: If problems with nssm.exe occur, you could remove the entire *Host Service* or *HttpFilter* program using [Windows Control Panel](#).

Recommended: [Identify nssm.exe related errors](#)

- If nssm.exe is located in a subfolder of "C:\Program Files", the security rating is 51% *dangerous*. The file size is 294,912 bytes (33% of all occurrences), 378,616 bytes and [33 more variants](#). The program is not visible. The nssm.exe file is not a Windows system file. There is no information about the author of the file. Nssm.exe is able to monitor applications.

Uninstalling this variant: If problems with nssm.exe occur, you could do the following:

- 1) remove the entire *NordVPN* or *myCANAL* program using [Windows Control Panel](#)
 - 2) turn to the [software developer, Nordvpn](#), for advice.
- If nssm.exe is located in a subfolder of C:\, the security rating is 45% *dangerous*. The file size is 324,608 bytes (40% of all occurrences), 294,912 bytes, 331,264 bytes or 394,240 bytes. It is not a Windows system file. The program has no visible window. There is no description of the program. Nssm.exe is able to monitor applications.

Uninstalling this variant: If problems with nssm.exe occur, you could do the following:

- 1) remove the entire *EaselLocal* or *QRMAgentService* program using [Windows Control Panel](#)
 - 2) consult [www.easel.com](#) [\[1\]\[2\]](#)'s Customer Service for advice
 - 3) search for an [update](#) on the vendor's website.
- If nssm.exe is located in a subfolder of C:\Windows, the security rating is 54% *dangerous*. The file size is 331,264 bytes (33% of all occurrences), 368,640 bytes, 207,360 bytes or 381,952 bytes.
 - If nssm.exe is located in the C:\Windows folder, the security rating is 49% *dangerous*. The file size is 324,608 bytes (40% of all occurrences), 167,424 bytes or 229,376 bytes.

Important: Some malware also uses the file name nssm.exe, for example *Trojan.Win64.NSSM.AGNT* (detected by TrendMicro), and *Trojan.Win64.Agent.qwhvbo* (detected by Kaspersky). Therefore, you should check the nssm.exe process on your PC to see if it is a threat. We recommend [Security Task Manager](#) for verifying your computer's security. This was one of the *Top Download Picks* of *The Washington Post* and *PC World*.

Best practices for resolving nssm issues

A clean and tidy computer is the key requirement for avoiding problems with nssm. This means running a scan for malware, cleaning your hard drive using [1cleanmgr](#) and [2sfc /scannow](#), [3uninstalling programs](#) that you no longer need, checking for Autostart programs (using [4msconfig](#)) and enabling Windows' [5Automatic Update](#). Always remember to perform periodic backups, or at least to set restore points.

Should you experience an actual problem, try to recall the last thing you did, or the last thing you installed before the problem appeared for the first time. Use the [6resmon](#) command to identify the processes that are causing your problem. Even for serious problems, rather than reinstalling Windows, you are better off repairing of your installation or executing the [7DISM.exe /Online /Cleanup-image /Restorehealth](#) command. This allows you to repair the operating system without losing data.

To get your computer running as fast as it did on day one, you can [8reset your PC](#). Your personal files will remain intact, but any programs you installed will need to be reinstalled.

To help you analyze the nssm.exe process on your computer, the following programs have proven to be helpful: [ASecurity Task Manager](#) displays all running Windows tasks, including embedded hidden processes, such as keyboard and browser monitoring or Autostart entries. A unique security risk rating indicates the likelihood of the process being potential spyware, malware or a Trojan. A good [Bantivirus software](#) detects and removes sleeping spyware, adware, Trojans, keyloggers, malware and trackers from your hard drive.

Other processes

[sptd.sys](#) [acs.exe](#) [browser](#) [assistant.exe](#) [nssm.exe](#) [wldnsp.dll](#) [dirmngr.exe](#) [igfxhk.exe](#) [riconman.exe](#)
[service_update.exe](#) [mpcopyaccelerator.exe](#) [jqs.exe](#) [\[show all\]](#)



Source: <https://www.file.net/process/nssm.exe.html>