

---

Subject: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [light](#) on Mon, 02 Jan 2006 21:25:20 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Last week a vulnerability was found in all versions of windows that allows people to execute arbitrary code using a buffer over-run in Windows Metafiles.

WMF files are images, so can be placed on any website or email and can be used to attack your system.

Please, everyone read: <http://grc.com/sn/notes-020.htm>

Use this to see if your system is vulnerable:

[http://www.hexblog.com/2006/01/wmf\\_vulnerability\\_checker.htm](http://www.hexblog.com/2006/01/wmf_vulnerability_checker.htm) |

Use this to 3rd party patch to secure it:

[http://www.hexblog.com/security/files/wmffix\\_hexblog13.exe](http://www.hexblog.com/security/files/wmffix_hexblog13.exe)

More technical details can be found here: <http://www.f-secure.com/weblog/>

EDIT:

Due to over-use, the hexblog website has been suspended. New Download links hosted on GRC.com

The Checker: [http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmf\\_checker\\_hexblog.exe](http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmf_checker_hexblog.exe)

and The Patcher: [http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmffix\\_hexblog14.exe](http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmffix_hexblog14.exe)

EDIT 2:

A revised list of vulnerable OS's. Bascially the two main ones are XP and Server 2003.

[http://blog.ziffdavis.com/seltzer/archive/2006/01/03/39684.a\\_spx](http://blog.ziffdavis.com/seltzer/archive/2006/01/03/39684.a_spx)

F-Secure RSS Feed:

Larry Seltzer from eWeek has been doing lots of additional testing against older versions of Windows and bad WMF files.He has just blogged his interesting findings:...in a practical sense, only Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 (in all their service pack levels) are vulnerable to the WMF flaw.

...all versions of Windows back to 3.0 have the vulnerability in GDI32.

Except for Windows XP and Windows Server 2003, no Windows versions, in their default configuration, have a default association for WMF files, and none of their Paint programs or any other standard programs installed with them can read WMF files...So the vulnerability is there on all platforms but it seems that only Windows XP and 2003 are easily exploitable. Unfortunately this still means that majority of Windows computers out there are vulnerable right now. And at least Windows 2000 becomes vulnerable if you're using many of the available third party image handling programs to open image files. On 03/01/06 At 07:29

AM<http://www.f-secure.com/weblog/#00000764>

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [Aprime](#) on Mon, 02 Jan 2006 21:40:02 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

It seems that many servers are affected by this, yesterday for instance my antivirus blocked 5 attempts to infect my computer using this method.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [light](#) on Mon, 02 Jan 2006 21:47:23 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Yeah, there are a lot of people who are trying to use this method to infect computers.

Anything from a website to an email attachment to an MSN link can do it.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [idebo](#) on Mon, 02 Jan 2006 21:54:37 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thanks for the info.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 02 Jan 2006 22:15:16 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thanks, my system turned out to be vulnerable.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [csskiller](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 05:09:06 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thanks, I would have never found out if you hadn't told me.

Just when Microsoft was beginning to win back my vote...

Things by Microsoft that I hate:

X-Box

Windows (to an extent)

Microsoft Flight Simulator

X-Box 360

Halo

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [Lijitsu](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 06:11:52 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Ooh, nice discovery. I've had the setup at the restart part for the last hour, like an idiot.

Oh, and thank you.

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [xptek](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 06:13:55 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

And then FreeBSD was born..

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [Goztow](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 07:24:04 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Tx for notifying! Winamp r0x0rs .

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [RTsa](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 13:15:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Yes, this was actually in the Finnish news yesterday...

I didn't think it was too serious but I did check that my computer is vulnerable to this thing.

I guess I'll install the hotfix, thanks for the links

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [The Mad Hatter](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 13:25:04 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thank you.

So once Microsoft release a fix you should uninstall the patch?

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch  
Posted by [Xtrm2Matt](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 19:03:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I don't think you realise how easy it is to infect people with this.

My signature could hold the virus for all you know. Only a decent AV can tell.

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch  
Posted by [Spice](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 20:10:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thanks, I just applied the patch.

csskiller wrote on Tue, 03 January 2006 00:09

Just when Microsoft was beginning to win back my vote...

Things by Microsoft that I hate:

Halo

Actually, Microsoft didn't make Halo, Bungie developed the game, Microsoft only published it. The game still sucks though.

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch  
Posted by [Lijitsu](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 20:23:02 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

EXdeath7 wrote on Tue, 03 January 2006 15:10 Thanks, I just applied the patch.

csskiller wrote on Tue, 03 January 2006 00:09

Just when Microsoft was beginning to win back my vote...

Things by Microsoft that I hate:

Halo

Actually, Microsoft didn't make Halo, Bungie developed the game, Microsoft only published it. The game still sucks though.

Thank you for standing up for the game, but why do you hate it? I want a real answer, too. I've been getting shit like: "PC 1S B3774R 7H3N X80X!11!!ONE!" Yes, the PC is better than the Xbox, but the Xbox is a console. You can't upgrade a console like you can a PC.

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch  
Posted by [Spice](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 22:00:15 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

That... my friend, is a story for another topic.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch  
Posted by [light](#) on Tue, 03 Jan 2006 23:29:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

The Mad Hatter wrote on Wed, 04 January 2006 02:25 Thank you.

So once Microsoft release a fix you should uninstall the patch?

Correct. Once Microsoft fix this issue, then you will have no need for this patch. It is a temporary measure.

Edit: Here is an updated list of vulnerable systems. Looks like pepole on 98/2000 are more secure than we thought. The two most vulnerable OS's are XP and Server 2003

It can be hidden in an image, so any image could do it, including Xtrm2Matt's signature.

For the record: Halo kicks ass.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch  
Posted by [cmatt42](#) on Wed, 04 Jan 2006 00:18:19 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Quote:Account for domain hexblog.com has been suspended

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch  
Posted by [csskiller](#) on Wed, 04 Jan 2006 00:42:46 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Here are the programs that were on the site.  
The first one being the checker and the second one being the patch

And although Halo kicks ass I still don't like it

#### File Attachments

---

- 1) [wmf\\_checker\\_hexblog.exe](#), downloaded 228 times
  - 2) [wmffix\\_hexblog13.exe](#), downloaded 214 times
-

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [light](#) on Wed, 04 Jan 2006 04:04:43 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Ifak Guilfanov's "HexBlog" web site has been administratively suspended due to excessive use. (Yeah, no kidding!) My recent eMail to Ifak bounced with an "unknown recipient" error. You may retrieve Ifak's latest files from the GRC server using the following links:

From: <http://grc.com/sn/notes-020.htm>

Download links, hosted on GRC.com

[http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmffix\\_hexblog14.exe](http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmffix_hexblog14.exe)

[http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmf\\_checker\\_hexblog.exe](http://www.grc.com/miscfiles/wmf_checker_hexblog.exe)

Thanks csskiller for uploading them here too.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [Xtrm2Matt](#) on Thu, 05 Jan 2006 10:57:16 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

You really shouldn't go and download an exe you know nothing about.

Use built-in Windows features to immune yourself:

Start > run > regsvr32 /u shimgvw.dll

To re-enable the dll, just do:

Start > run > regsvr32 shimgvw.dll

....

A side-effect is that it will disable viewing of thumbnails in Windows image thingy-whatever-ma-jick. Just use another image viewing program to do such a thing.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [The Mad Hatter](#) on Thu, 05 Jan 2006 18:35:29 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thanks for the info.

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [Dave Mason](#) on Thu, 05 Jan 2006 22:31:29 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

[http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/update/bulletins/20\\_0601\\_WMF.msp](http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/update/bulletins/20_0601_WMF.msp)

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [light](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 01:11:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

<http://grc.com/sn/notes-020.htm> << Explains pretty much everything.

The guy who wrote this released his source code too. People have looked over it and said it's fine.

Besides, your taking a bigger risk not patching.

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [light](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 02:21:26 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Xtrm2Matt wrote on Thu, 05 January 2006 23:57 You really shouldn't go and download an exe you know nothing about.

Use built-in Windows features to immune yourself:

```
Start > run > regsvr32 /u shimgvw.dll
```

To re-enable the dll, just do:

```
Start > run > regsvr32 shimgvw.dll
```

....

A side-effect is that it will disable viewing of thumbnails in Windows image thingy-whatever-ma-jick. Just use another image viewing program to do such a thing.

Thats not a full fix. It just makes it harder to trigger the vulnerability.

However, I believe MS have released their patch now. (It does exactly them same thing as the 3rd party one)

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [Dave Mason](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 02:29:13 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hence my link.

---

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

---

Posted by [Renx](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 03:15:41 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

MS already released a fix for it. I downloaded it today while updating XP before I even knew about the vulnerability

---

Subject: Re: Everyone Read - Windows WMF Vulnerability Patch

Posted by [light](#) on Fri, 06 Jan 2006 03:30:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Renx wrote on Fri, 06 January 2006 16:15MS already released a fix for it. I downloaded it today while updating XP before I even knew about the vulnerability

It's just a shame they took so long. This should have been patched by them much sooner.

I will be patching when I get home.

---