

Windows Defender is disabled or inactive, this is a fix

In some cases when opening Windows Defender you receive an error message: Windows Defender has been turned off, and it is not monitoring your computer.

Windows Defender is one of the most effective anti-virus programs that helps protect against malicious software, malware, spyware . and protects your computer safely. This is a free program that Microsoft provides for Windows users. Windows Defender allows users to schedule to scan or schedule automatic scans .

However in some cases when opening Windows Defender you receive an error message: *"Windows Defender has been turned off, and it is not monitoring your computer "*.

This error may be due to the installation of a program, certain antivirus software Windows Defender has been disabled. To fix the above errors, follow the steps below:



1. Open Action Center and check if Windows Defender is enabled.

2. Run services.msc to open Services Manager. Make sure that Windows Defender Service is enabled and set **Automatic**.

3. Re-register the DLL file.

Run each of the commands below into the Elevated command prompt window, after each command press Enter:

```
regsvr32 wuaueng.dll
```

```
regsvr32 wucltui.dll
```

```
regsvr32 softpub.dll
```

```
regsvr32 wintrust.dll
```

```
regsvr32 initpki.dll
```

```
regsvr32 wups.dll
```

```
regsvr32 wuweb.dll
```

```
regsvr32 atl.dll
```

```
regsvr32 mssip32.dll
```

4. At this point on the screen, Windows Security Center will prompt you to "Check installation" in the Malware Protection section. Your task is to click **Turn on now**.

An error message will appear on the screen: *"There are no definitions available to download for Windows Defender"*.

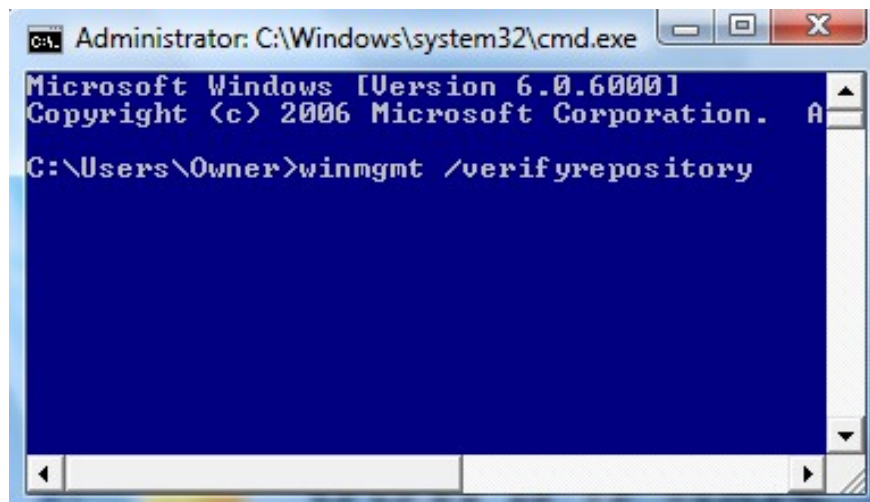
In this case it is very likely that the cause of the error is due to WMI repository inappropriate. Restart the WMI repository to fix this error.

Open the Command prompt under Admin, enter the command below and press Enter:

```
winmgmt / verifyrepository
```

If you receive the message *"WMI repository is not consistent"* , run the following command:

```
winmgmt / salvagerepository
```



```
Administrator: C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.0.6000]
Copyright (c) 2006 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Owner>winmgmt /verifyrepository
```

This command will check the identity of the WMI repository and fix the problems. Restart your computer, then try to activate Windows Defender.

If you receive the message *"winmgmt / salvagerepository is failed"* , ignore the message and rerun the **winmgmt / salvagerepository** command again.

Refer to some of the following articles:

1. How to disable and completely remove Windows Defender?
1. Your Windows 10-based computer has a virus, this is a fix
1. How to schedule automatic scans for Windows Defender on Windows 8

Good luck!

You finished reading the article "**Windows Defender is disabled or inactive, this is a fix**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.