

# The dangers of messing with activation when handling a WM\_ACTIVATE message

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 [devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20050809-13](http://devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20050809-13)

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This is basically the same thing as [The dangers of playing focus games when handling a WM\\_KILLFOCUS message](#), just with activation in place of focus. [One developer discovered the hard way that if you mess with activation inside your WM\\_ACTIVATE handler, things get weird.](#) The author noted that if he posted a message and did the work from the posted message, then everything came out okay.

[A follow-up to the original message](#) noted that passing the `SWP_NOACTIVATE` flag to the `SetWindowPos` function solves the problem. Do you understand why?

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