

File version information does not appear in the property sheet for some files

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A customer reported that file version information does not appear on the Details page of the property sheet which appears when you right-click the file and select *Properties*. They reported that the problem began in Windows 7.

The reason that the file version information was not appearing is that the file's extension was `.xyz`. Older versions of Windows attempted to extract file version information for all files regardless of type. I believe it was Windows Vista that changed this behavior and extracted version information only for known file types for Win32 modules, specifically `.cpl`, `.dll`, `.exe`, `.ocx`, `.rll`, and `.sys`. If the file's extension is not on the list above, then the shell will not sniff for version information.

If you want to register a file type as eligible for file version extraction, you can add the following registry key:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE
  \Software
    \Microsoft
      \Windows
        \CurrentVersion
          \PropertySystem
            \PropertyHandlers
              \.XYZ
                (Default) = REG_SZ:"{66742402-F9B9-11D1-A202-0000F81FEDEE}"
```

(Thanks in advance for complaining about this change in behavior. This always happens whenever I post in the Tips/Support category about how to deal with a bad situation. Maybe I should stop trying to explain how to deal with bad situations.)

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