

How do I force the Task Manager window closed whenever it opens?

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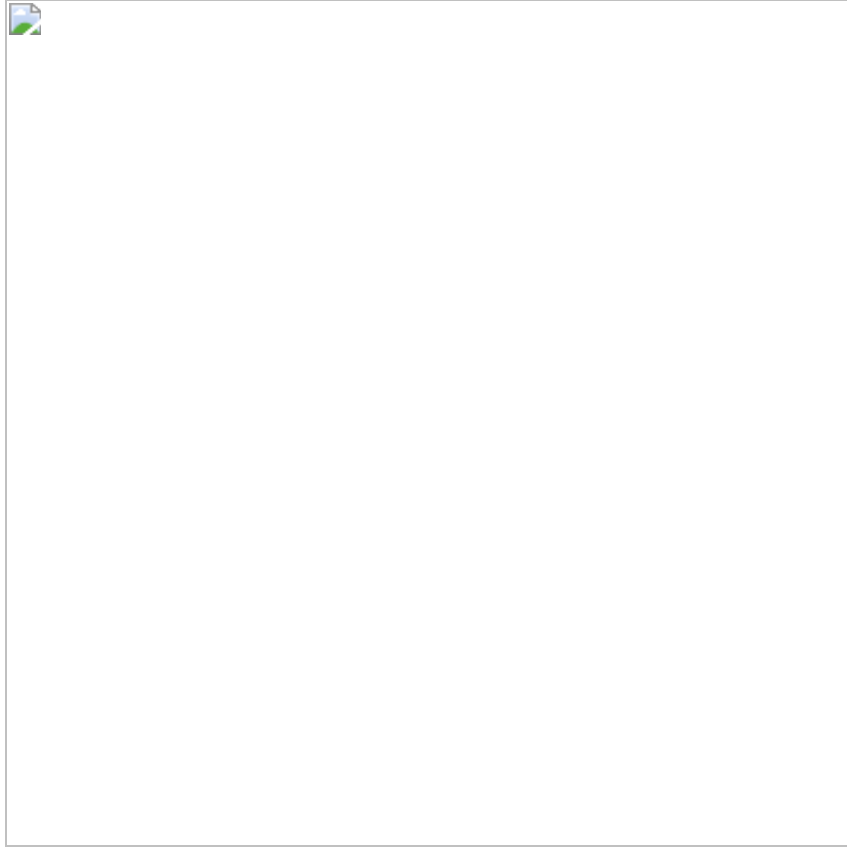
Raymond Chen

A customer wanted to close (or at least hide) the Task Manager window whenever it opens. They did so by setting a timer and periodically running this code:

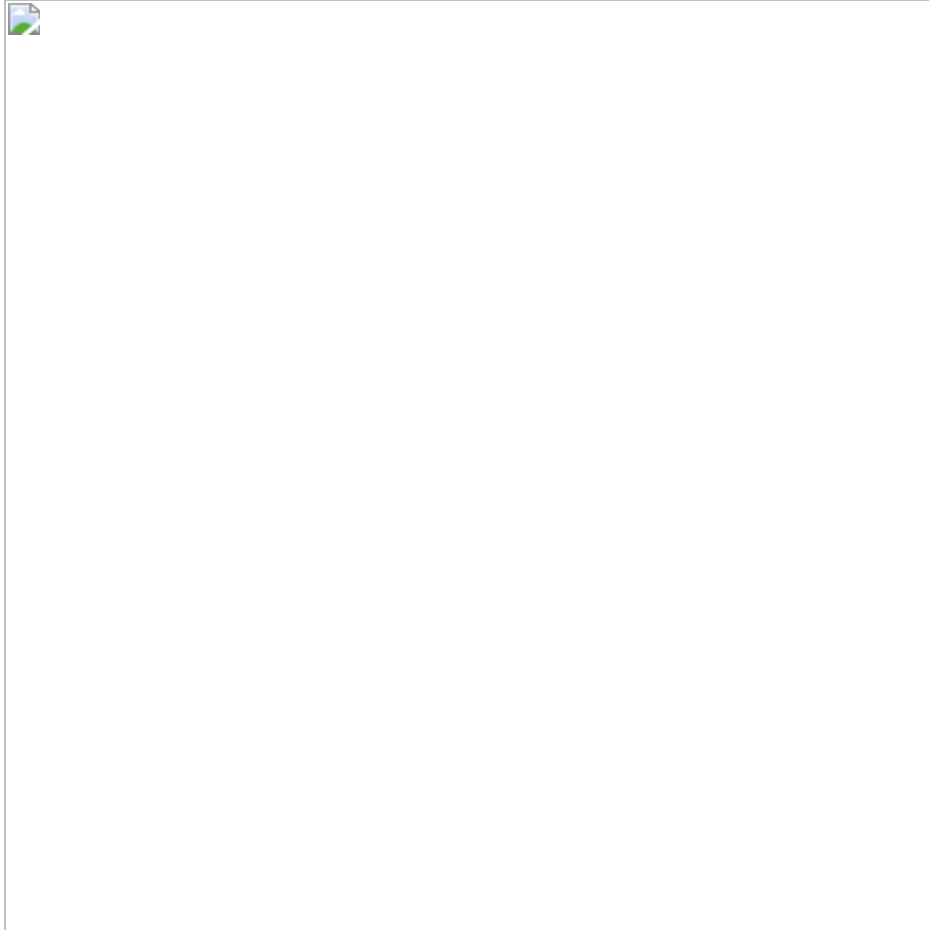
```
void FindAndCloseTaskManager()
{
    HWND taskManagerWindow = FindWindow(nullptr, "Windows Task Manager");
    if (taskManagerWindow) {
        PostMessage(taskManagerWindow, WM_CLOSE, 0, 0);
    }
}
```

This code worked on Windows 7, but stopped working on Windows 8.

Well, yeah, because you're searching for a window by name. The name of the Task Manager window in Windows 7 was *Windows Task Manager*:



On the other hand, in Windows 8, the window was named simply *Task Manager*.



And of course, those names apply only to English. If the user's UI language is German, the name will be *Task-Manager* with a hyphen.

Whether a user can or cannot run Task Manager is an administrative decision, not an application decision. Use the "Remove Task Manager" group policy.

Bonus chatter: Note that if this customer had their way, the name of Task Manager would be a compatibility constraint.

Bonus bonus chatter: Don't think you can rely on the window class name either. That is also subject to change.

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