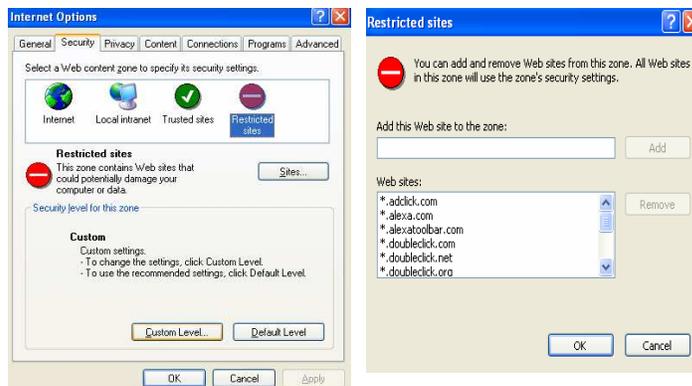


Setting IE Restricted Zone

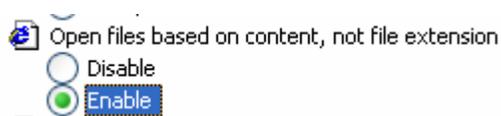
Besides keeping current on patches for your web browser, it is good practice to use the Built-in protection of Internet Explorer Zones to force web traffic to adhere to some basic rules. It should be noted that the use of IE Zones is not a panacea and can be circumvented in some cases, but proper configuration can greatly reduce the success of many common browser attacks. This document will describe how to severely restrict functions for sites defined in the Restricted Zone, but can be applied to any other IE Zone.

First, access the IE Zones by selecting the Tools/Internet Options menu item within IE. Select the Security tab, highlight the Restricted Sites icon and click on 'Sites'.

Populate the 'Sites' list with known sites that may cause you grief. These sites can be typical ad rotator sites, shared user hosting sites and others which can be found via a simple search in a Search Engine or from site lists derived from various Spyware software offerings.



Next, click on the 'Custom Level' button and disable all the elements listed. This will disable all attempts of the sites listed to run scripts, download/install software, capture logins and access other data sources. Be sure to ENABLE the popup blocker if using Windows XP Service Pack 2. Also, select ENABLE for 'Open files based on content, not file extension' to prevent someone from naming an executable as an innocuous text file.



Note that this document only describes how to control the web browsing experience for sites defined in the Restricted Sites zone *by site domain name*. You can apply the same functionality by configuring similar settings to the Internet Zone (start by setting everything to Disable then slowly opening up items as your web surfing habits require). You can also set local or trusted web sites to have more power when running scripts and providing active content by listing them in the Local Intranet or Trusted Sites Zones and relaxing some of the restrictions for scripting. Note that at any time, you can revert the settings back to default by clicking on the 'Restore Defaults' button.