

Terminally Incoherent

Utterly random, incoherent and disjointed rants and ramblings...

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Spybot's TeaTimer Broken since June 2005

If you ever used Spybot and it's resident registry protection tool TeaTimer you know what I mean. If you didn't let me illustrate it to you using a picture:

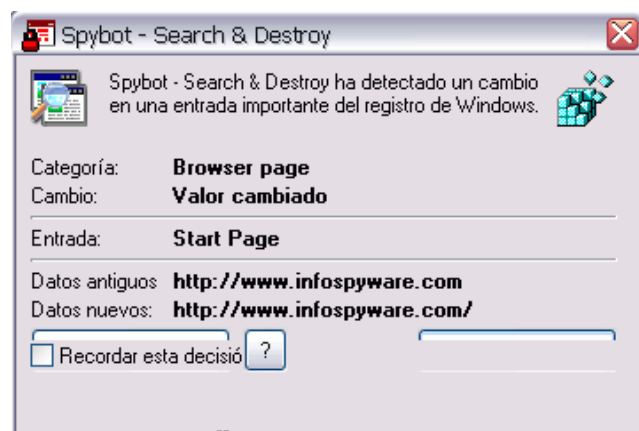


image stolen from forums.spybot.info

Do you see the problem here? And no, I don't mean the Spanish interface. That's because I have shamelessly stolen this image from the spybot forums. I meant the fucked up button positioning.

This problem existed since June 2005 or so. Spybot dev team [blamed it on some bug](#) in their Boardland development environment, but come on! How hard is it to fucking fix a button positioning problem in a release version? I understand how this might have slipped through on day one, but this bug has been pissing me off for over a year now. And it's not that there is no easy solution for this. You can [fix this bug yourself in 2 minutes](#) using [ResHacker](#).

If you are too lazy to read that forum post, here is the solution in a nutshell: kill TeaTimer, open the TeaTimer.exe in ResHacker (it's in %PROGRAMFILES%\Spybot - Search & Destroy) and locate the following snippet of code:

```
object cbRemember: TCheckBox
Left = 8
Top = 160
Width = 339
Height = 17
Anchors = [akLeft, akTop, akRight]
Caption = '&Remember this decision.'
TabOrder = 2
end
```

The easiest way to do this is probably to search (Ctrl+F) for the word "decision" - it should be the first hit. Once you find it, just change the 160 (in bold) to **190**, click *Compile Script*, then save it and you are all set.

Tell me - if I can fix this issue in under 2 minutes by hacking a binary file, how hard would it be for them to do it when compiling the binaries? Hell, if it's so hard, they could just hack the binary the same way I did, before packing it up in an installer.

Supposedly this issue has been fixed in their [new beta release](#) from December. Still, having this annoying bug in their stable release version makes me wonder what other bugs they left unfixed out of laziness? I used to be a big Spybot Supporter but after my users started complaining about broken dialogs, and the issue persisted for over a year without a fix I kinda lost my faith in their product.

Which brings me to my question: what is your favorite Anti-Spyware tool these days? Preferably I'm looking for free tools, but if you can recommend an exceptionally good proprietary software, I'll bite too.

tags: [spybot](#), [tea timer](#), [resident](#), [search and destroy](#), [bug](#), [reshacker](#), [anti spyware](#)

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8 Responses to “Spybot’s TeaTimer Broken since June 2005”

-  [Adam Dempsey](#)  Says:
[March 19th, 2007 at 12:39 pm \[Quote\]](#)

I always had that problem and assumed it was because of something dodgy I'd installed. Nice to know there's a fix.

I use a mix of SpyBot, AdAware and Spyware Blaster. Have also used Spyware Doctor a few times before too, that's quite good.

Posted using  Mozilla Firefox 2.0.0.2 on  Windows XP

-  [Luke](#)  Says:
[March 19th, 2007 at 12:53 pm \[Quote\]](#)

I used AdAware and SpywareBlaster before, but I never tried Spyware Doctor. I will have to check it out. Thanks