
Subject: Re: Can't associate IDL with .pro files on Windows XP

Posted by [Marc Reinig](#) on Sat, 25 Feb 2006 00:54:00 GMT

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Open "Explorer"
Go to "Tools"
Select "Folder Options"
Select "File Types"
scroll down until you find "PRO"

if you find it, click "change"
Now click "select program from list" and "OK"
Select "Browse" and find IDLDE.exe, click "OK"
Select "Always use the selected program ..." and click "OK"

If you don't find it click "New" and enter PRO and click apply
Now select "PRO", click "change" etc.

--

Marco

Marc Reinig
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"Jared Espley" <jespley@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:1140825969.976369.146810@e56g2000cwe.googlegroups.com.. .

> Hi,

>

> I'm having trouble getting Windows to recognize IDL as a program to
> open .pro files. I've tried both a general google search and searching
> this group for help and had no luck. Maybe someone here will point out
> what my mistake is; surely it's something obvious I'm overlooking.

>

> I had IDL 5.5 and IDL 6.1 on my Windows XP machine. I was using 6.1
> but hadn't ever bothered to get rid of 5.5. I just installed 6.2 on
> the same machine and decided to go ahead and uninstall 5.5 using the
> Windows uninstall interface.

>

> When I did so, my .pro files were not recognized by Windows as being
> opened by IDL any longer. When I click on them, Windows does its usual
> thing and asks what program would I like to open them with. I choose
> to find the program myself (as if I had right clicked and said open
> with). I then get the usual list of possible programs. IDL is not
> listed but when I select browse I go to
> c:/rsi/idl62/bin/bin.x386/idlde.exe. I click open which closes the
> browse window and returns me to the window for selecting the program
> but yet IDLDE is not added to the possible list.

>
> Just to test things, I tried selecting something random not found in
> the possible list as the opening application. I selected my sshd.exe
> application through the same process and it showed up in the possible
> list and in fact Windows dutifully tried to open the .pro file with it
> (failing of course).
>
> When I run IDLDE I can of course manually open .pro files just fine.
> It's just that it'd be nice to have clicking on the .pro file
> automatically open idlde as it did this morning and many years
> previously.
>
> Any thoughts?
>

Subject: Re: Can't associate IDL with .pro files on Windows XP
Posted by [Jared Espley](#) on Sat, 25 Feb 2006 08:17:33 GMT
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Thanks for the input. However, that's more or less what I was trying already. The problem is that when I browse for idlde.exe and click on it, it doesn't show up on the list of possible applications to open things up. I'd think this was a problem with Windows but yet when I try, for example, starcraft.exe, starcraft shows up in the list, I click ok, and windows tries to open .pro files with starcraft from then on. Thus it seems to be a problem with the way IDLDE is registered with Windows. I'm quite baffled honestly.

Update: Well after writing the previous paragraph I thought I better triple check that I wasn't doing anything completely stupid. This time around I noticed an "advanced" button once I had selected .pro from the list of recognized file extensions. I clicked on it, clicked on the new action button, typed the word "open" and browsed for the idlde.exe, selected it as the executing program, and clicked ok. Viola. Everything worked as it should. I'm still baffled but my problem is solved. Sorry this turned out to be probably off topic since it seems to be mainly a Windows problem. Nonetheless, something was causing IDL to be treated differently.

Subject: Re: Can't associate IDL with .pro files on Windows XP
Posted by [Marc Reinig](#) on Sat, 25 Feb 2006 17:36:35 GMT
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When you uninstalled the previous versions, probably one of them removed the link between .PRO and IDLDE.EXE, unaware that a newer version had been

installed, thus breaking the link. A problem with the uninstall script probably. Perhaps it should have queried you about whether you wanted to remove the link.

--

Marco

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