

Run AllOff As A Service On Windows 2000 And Windows XP

JSutils Technical Note: JSU004

Applies To: AllOff Version 4.x

Operating Systems: Windows 2000, Windows XP

Useful Links: [JSutils Website](#) [Shutdown Utility Index](#)
[Technical Notes Index](#) [Calculator Index](#)

AllOff currently can be configured to start when the user logs in. To enable AllOff to run when the computer boots it needs to be installed as a Windows service. To enable AllOff to communicate properly with the service manager it needs to be run from within a suitable wrapper program. In addition running as a service AllOff will no longer be able to reference its data and log directories unless symbolic links are created from the system32 directory where services are run from to the AllOff installation directory.

Install AllOff

Install AllOff or AllOff Slave ensuring that during installation 'Run On Startup' is not selected. Configure AllOff to work as required but check the 'Run Minimised' checkbox.

Enable AllOff To Reference The Correct Directories

AllOff references two directories (Data and Log) which are relative to the AllOff program directory during normal operation, when installed as a service these directories are reference relative to the system32 directory which will stop AllOff working if a symbolic link is not created for each directory.

Windows 2000 and Windows XP do not come with a utility for creating symbolic links, however a suitable one can be downloaded from the Microsoft web site called [junction.exe](#). This link also provides more information on the function and usage of junction.exe. Download and unzip the utility to a directory of your choice then open a command prompt running as an administrator and run the following commands from the directory junction.exe is in to create the symbolic links: This assumes AllOff has been installed in C:\Program Files\JSutils\.

```
junction.exe "C:\WINDOWS\system32\Data" "C:\Program Files\JSutils\AllOff\Data"
```

```
junction.exe "C:\WINDOWS\system32\Log" "C:\Program Files\JSutils\AllOff\Log"
```

To check the links have been correctly connected list the symbolic links for the system32 directory and check the there are Data and Log directories by running the following command:

```
junction.exe -s "C:\WINDOWS\system32"
```

Creating And Configuring The AllOff Service

There are various programs that can be used as the wrapper program for AllOff but one of the easiest to use is Windows Service Manager (SrvMan) which can be downloaded from [SysProgs](#). There are two versions of

the program for 32 bit and 64 bit machines. These instructions use the 32 bit variant. Download and unzip the utility to a directory of your choice then run the 32 bit variant `srvman.exe`. This will display the current services. This interface can be used for creating, starting, stopping and deleting services. Note there is no need to set a password for the `Alloff` service.

- Click on Add Service and insert the following information:
- Internal service name: `Alloff`
- User visible name: `Alloff`
- Binary file path (win32): `C:\Program Files\JSutills\Alloff\Alloff.exe` (assuming `Alloff` is installed in the default location)
- Service type: Select Win32 program as service via `Srvman`
- Interactive service: Tick this checkbox
- Start Mode: Select Auto (started by Service Control Manager during startup)
- Login account: `LocalSystem`
- Service description: Activity monitor and shutdown utility

Stopping And Starting The `Alloff` Service

Apart from stopping the service using `srvman.exe` you can also use the `sc.exe` supplied with Windows XP as shown below. Open a command prompt running as an administrator and use the relevant command below:

```
sc.exe start Alloff
```

```
sc.exe stop Alloff
```

Checking The `Alloff` Service Is Running

Open the services tab by right clicking on My Computer, select Manage and then Services. Check that `Alloff` is visible and running..

Deleting `Alloff` Directory References

To delete the symbolic links to the `Alloff` Data and Log directories use the same tools used to create them.

From a command prompt run the following commands to delete the symbolic links:

```
junction.exe -d "C:\WINDOWS\system32\Data"
```

```
junction.exe -d "C:\WINDOWS\system32\Log"
```

To check the links have been correctly connected list the symbolic links for the `system32` directory and check the there are Data and Log directories by running the following command:.

```
junction.exe -s C:\WINDOWS\system32
```