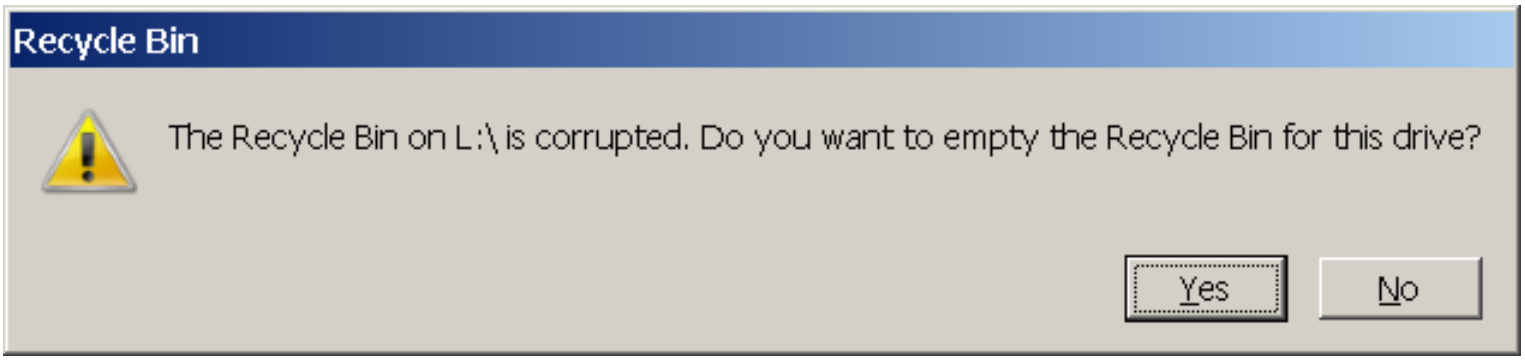
REPAIRING A "CORRUPTED RECYCLE BIN" IN "WINDOWS.."

HIGH-LEVEL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A "corrupted recycle bin" is an annoying hard drive error that makes the "Windows.." recycle bin incapable of storing "deleted" files and folders. The " "Windows 8 Developers Preview" which is also known as "Windows 8 Pre-beta" has caused "corrupted recycle bin" errors for many of our external USB 3 and USB 2 hard drives. This procedure provides a permanent repair for the "corrupted recycle bin" problem.

"CORRUPTED RECYCLE BIN" PROBLEM IN "WINDOWS.."

When you try to delete a file or folder, you get a box that says:
"The Recycle Bin on <drive letter>:\ is corrupted. Do you want to empty the Recycle Bin for this drive?".

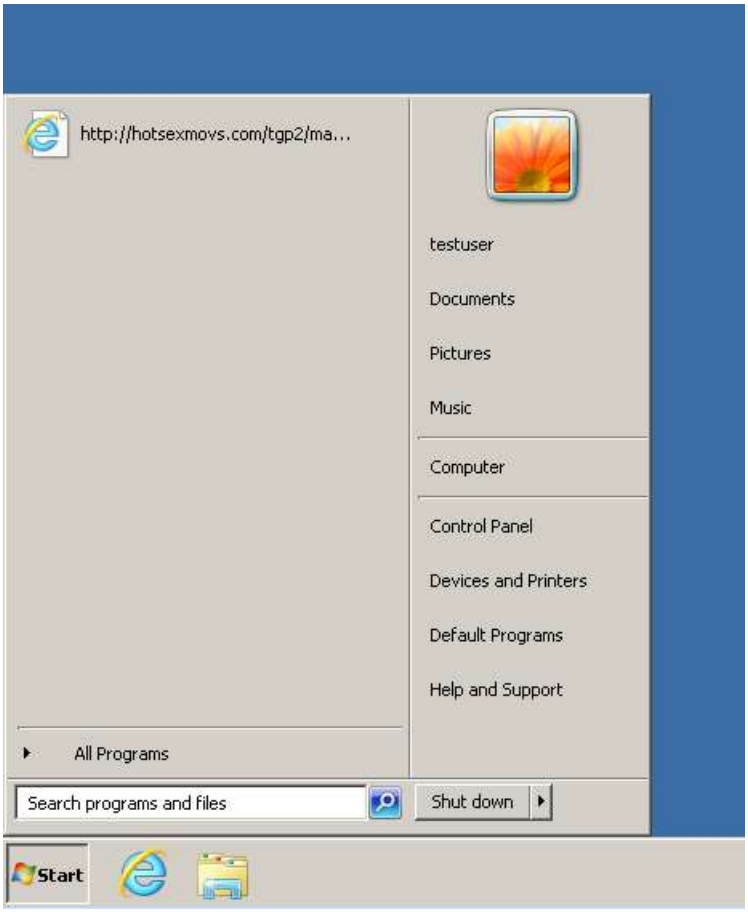


While this problem does not cause you to lose data files, it is annoying. It also makes your "Recycle Bin" unable to store "deleted" files. The following is a step-by-step procedure for fixing for this problem:

STEP BY STEP PROCEDURE

Step 1:
Click on the Windows "Start" button:

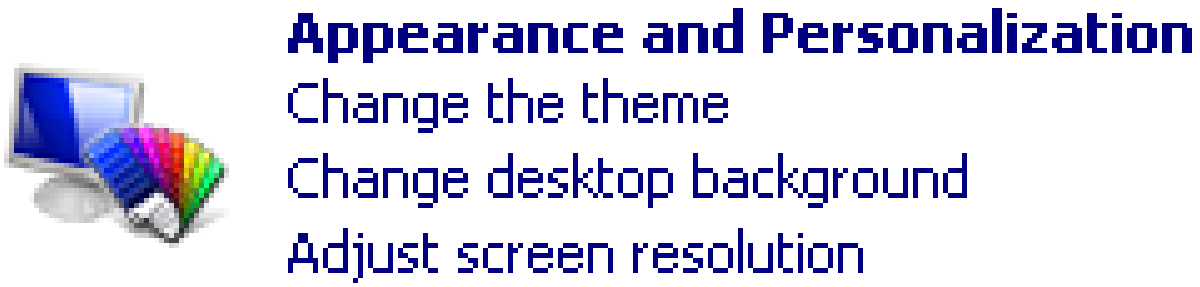
Step 2:
The "Start menu" will be displayed:



Step 3:
Click on "Control Panel" in the "Start menu".

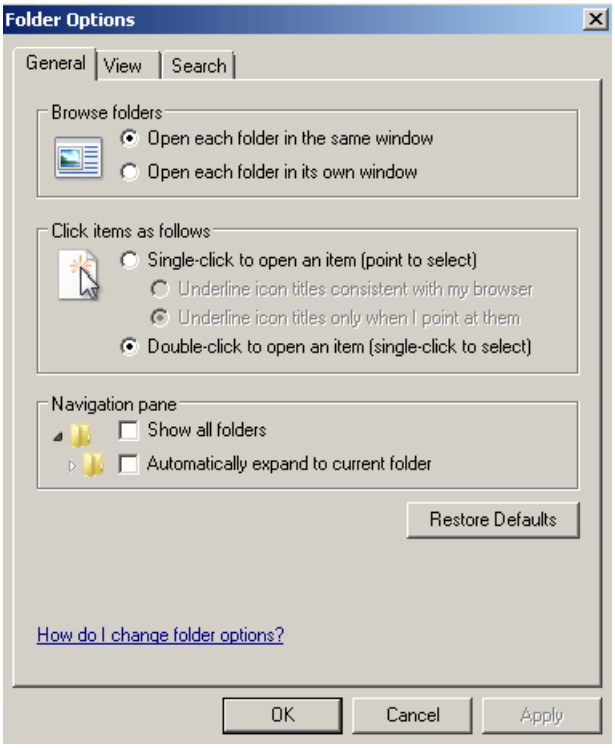
Step 4:
Either a "Control Panel" window or an "All Control Panel Items" window will be displayed.

Step 5:
If "Appearance and Personalization" is available, click on it.



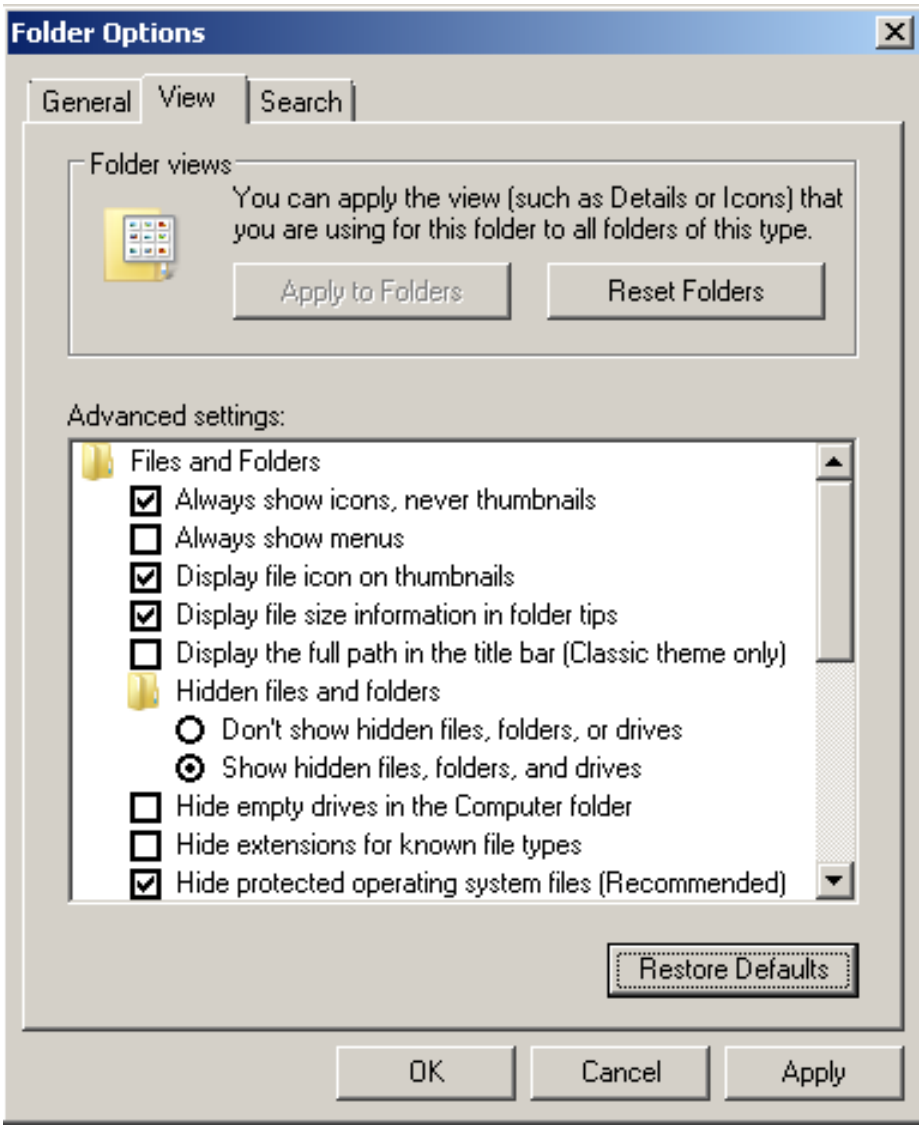
Step 6:
Double-click on "Folder Options":

Step 7:
A "Folder Options" box will be displayed:

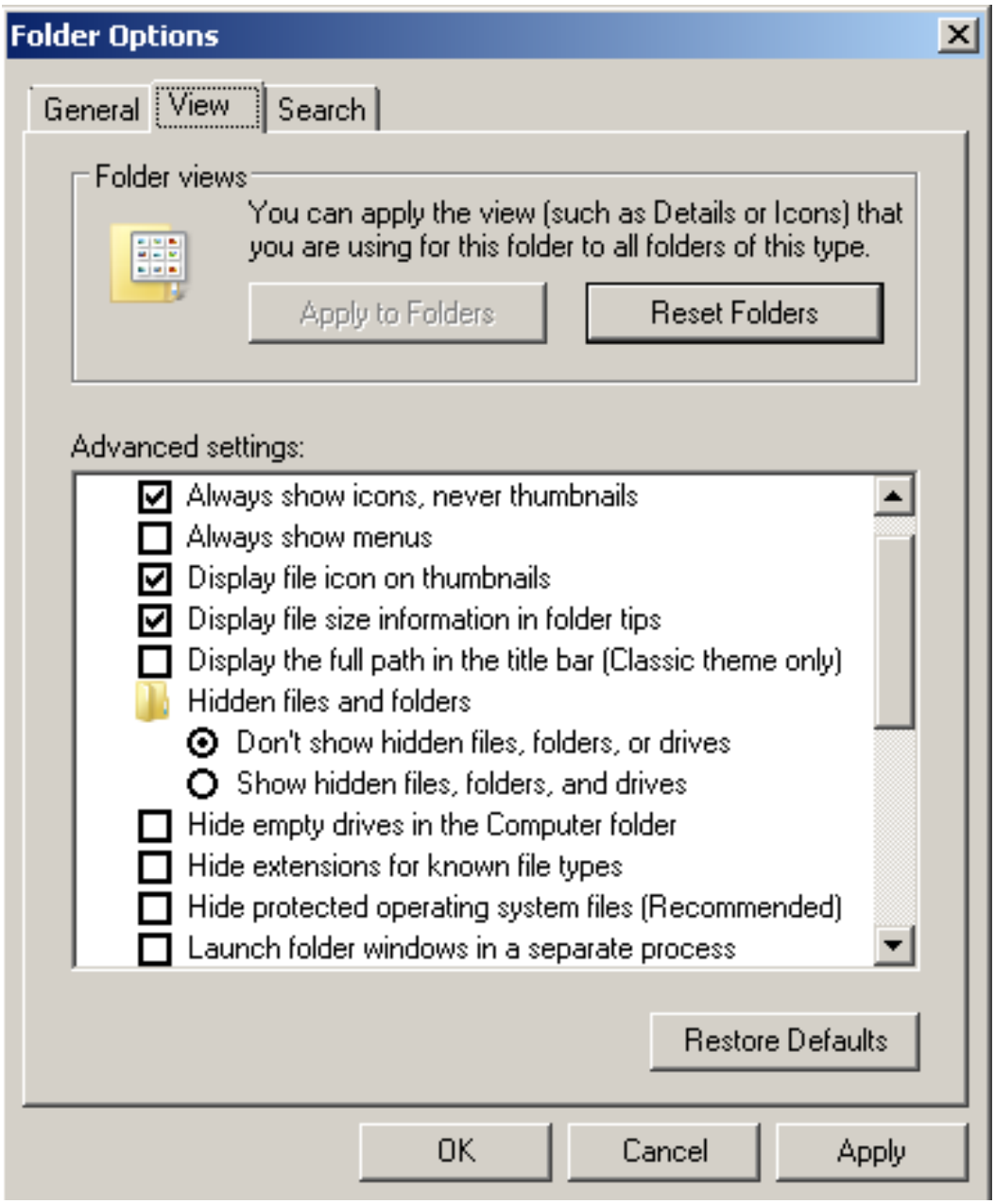


Step 8:
Click on the "View" tab of the "Folder Options" box.

Step 9:
Locate "Hide protected operating system files":

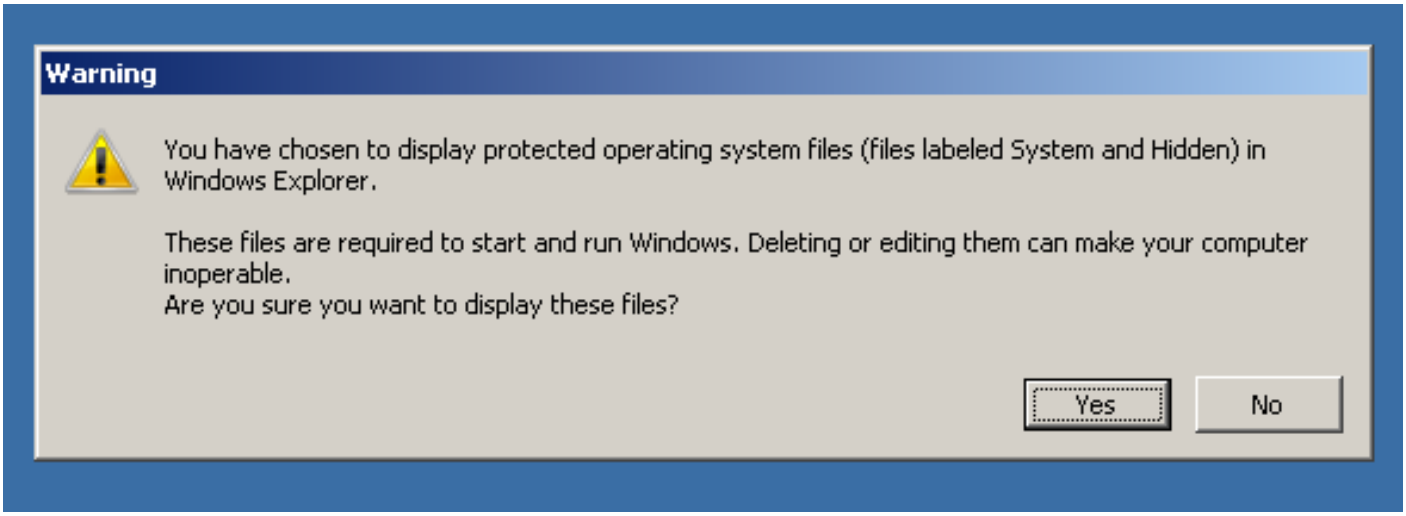


Step 10a:
Remove the checkmark from "Hide operating system files" (if a checkmark is there).

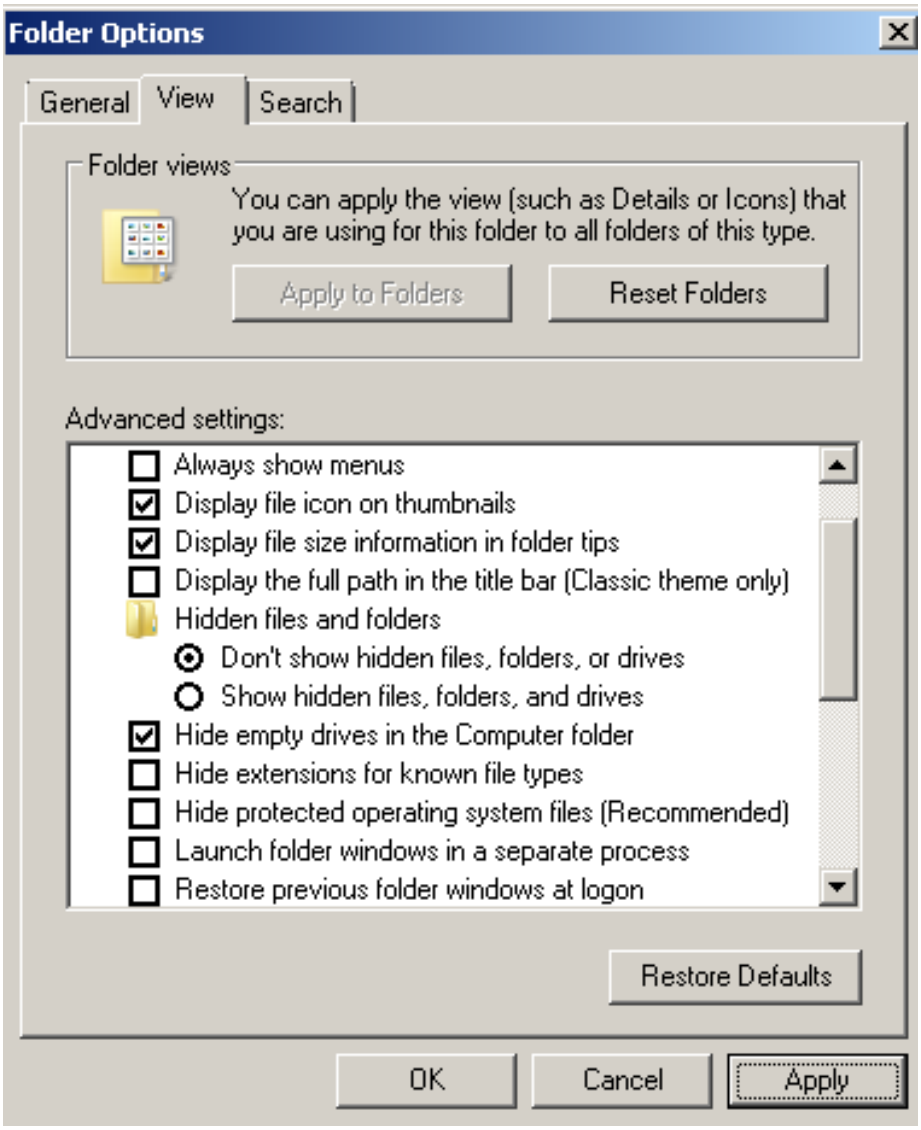


Step 10b:

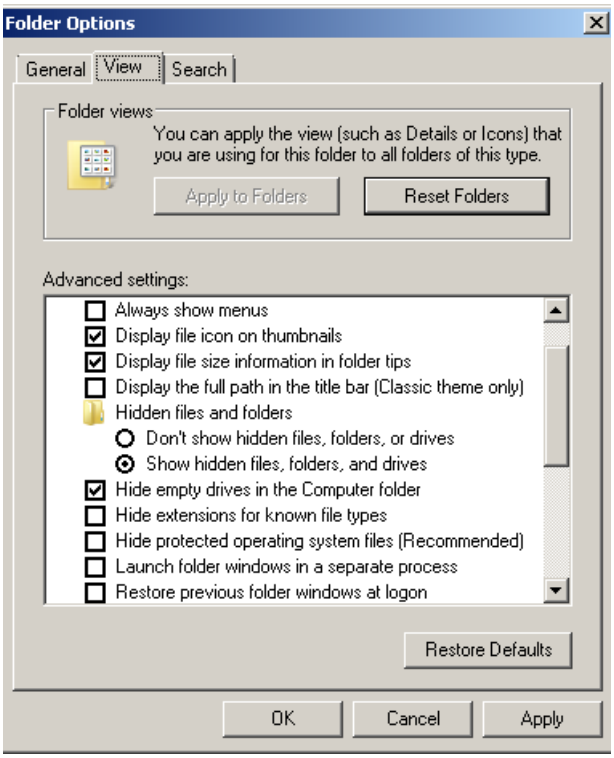
If you get this warning message, click on its "Yes" button:



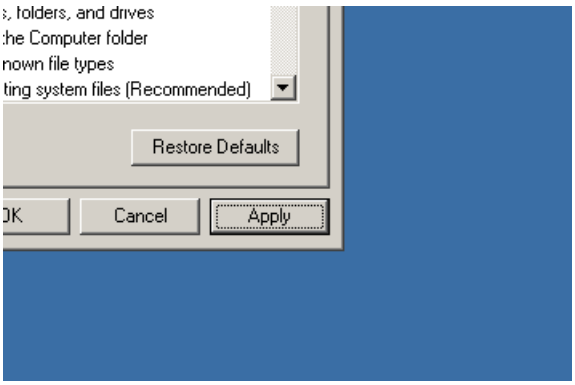
Step 11:
Locate "Show hidden files, folders, and drives":



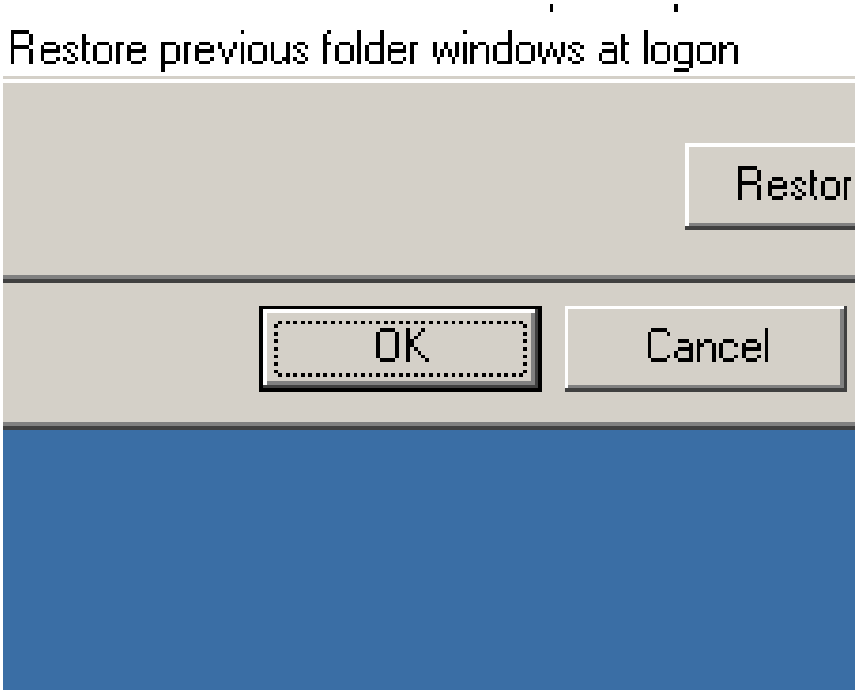
Step 12:
Select "Show hidden files, folders, and drives (if it is not already selected).



Step 13:
Click on the "Apply" button of the "Folder Options" box:



Step 14:
Click on the "OK" button of the "Folder Options" box:



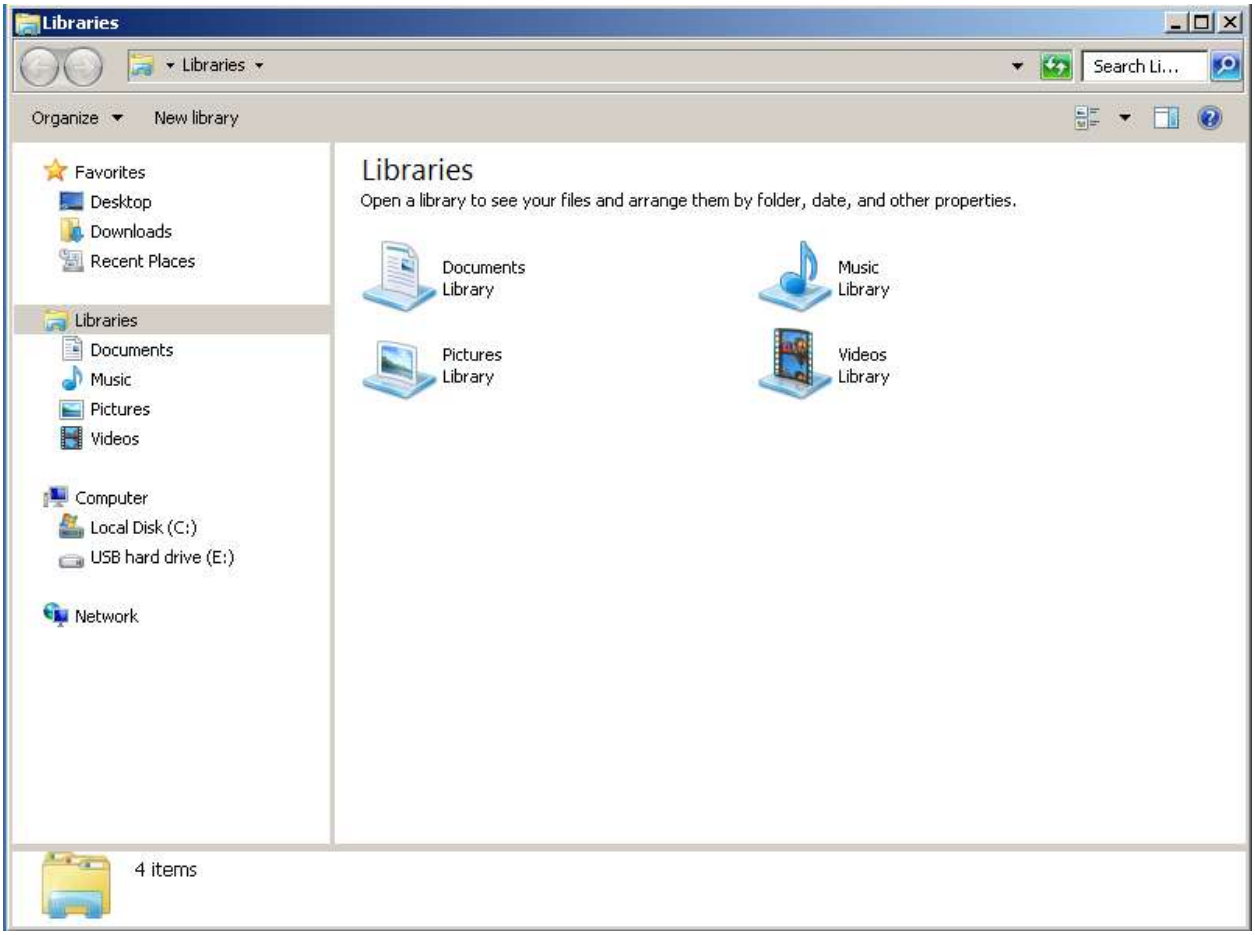
Step 15:
The "Folder Options" box will disappear.

Step 16:
Click on the "X" button in the upper right-hand corner of the "Control Panel" or "All Control Panel Items" window.

Step 17:
The "Control Panel" or "All Control Panel Items" window will disappear.

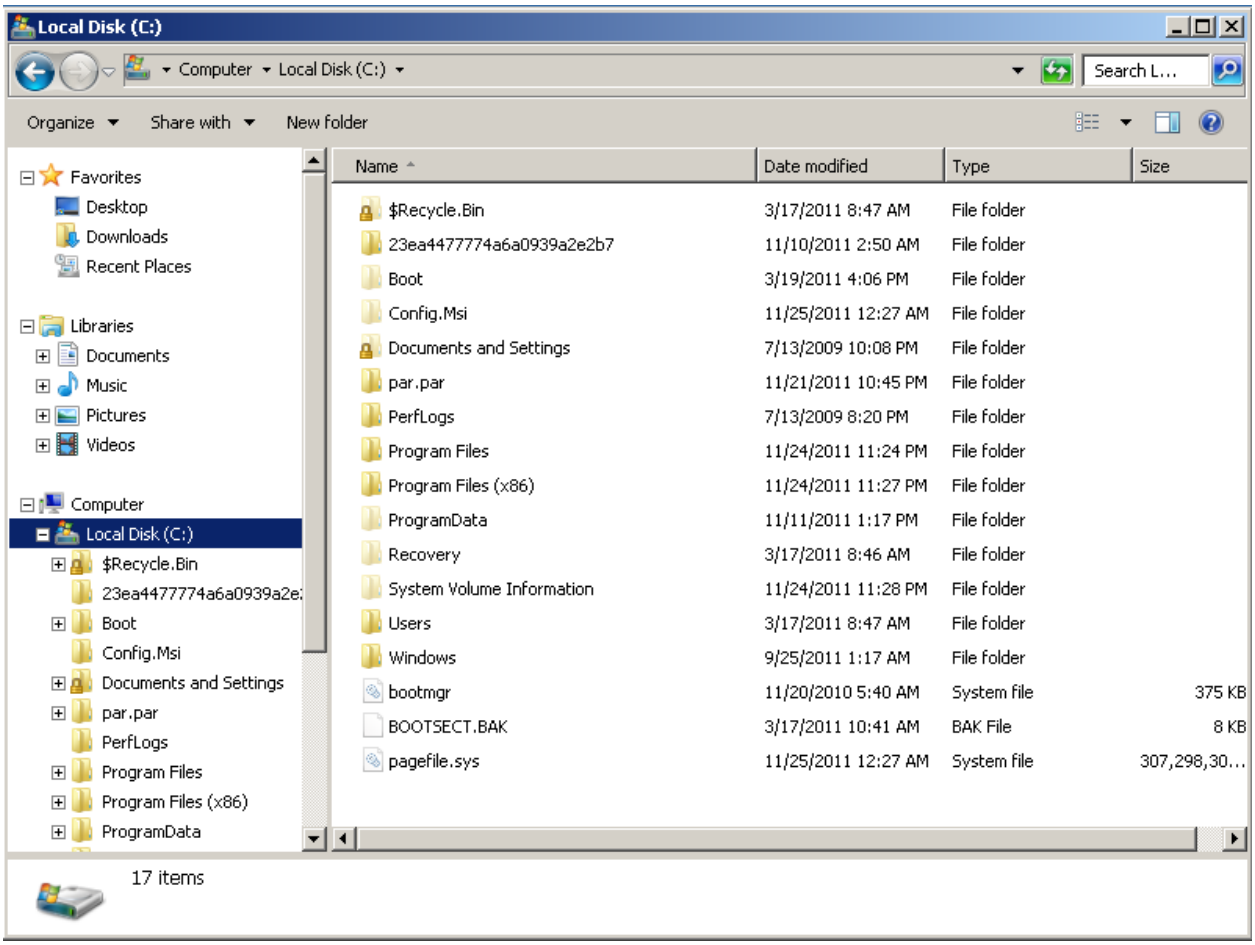
Step 18:
Start "Windows Explorer":

Step 19:
A "Windows Explorer" window will be displayed:



Step 20:
Double-click on the C: drive.

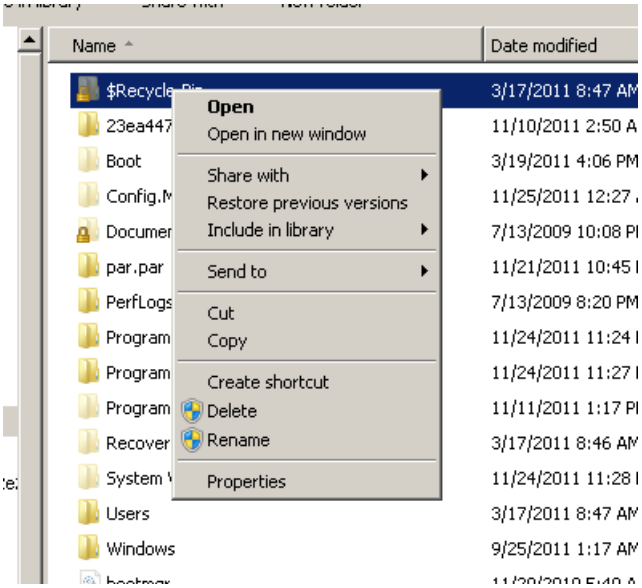
Step 21:
The contents of the drive will be displayed:



Step 22:
Locate the "Recycle Bin" icon:

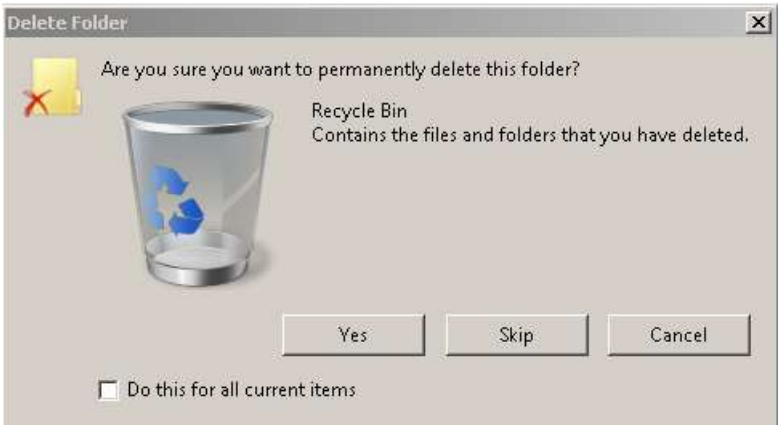
Step 23:
Use the RIGHT mouse button to perform a click on the "Recycle Bin" icon:

Step 24:
A pop-up context menu will be displayed:



Step 25:
Click on "Delete" in the pop-up context menu.

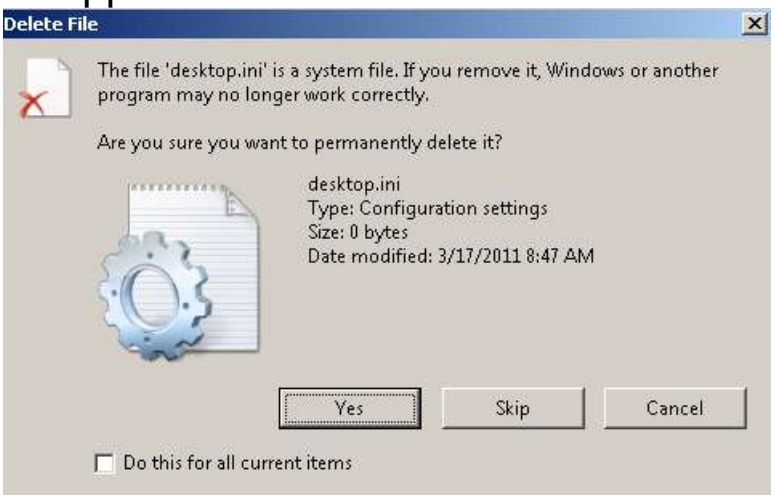
Step 26:
A "Delete Folder" box will be displayed:



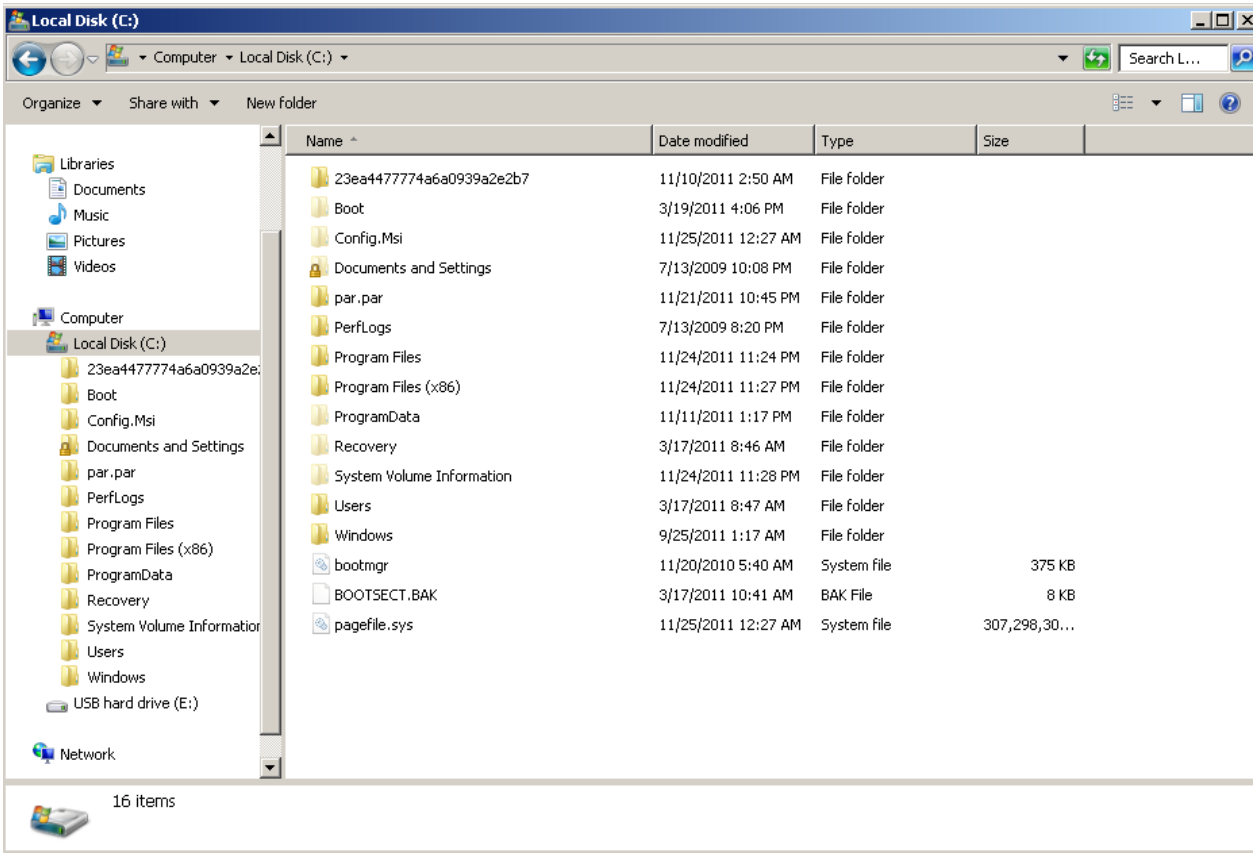
Step 27:
Click on "Yes" in the "Delete Folder" box:

Step 28:
The "Delete Folder" box will disappear.

Step 29:
If a "Delete file" box is displayed, click on its "Yes" button to make the "Delete file" disappear:



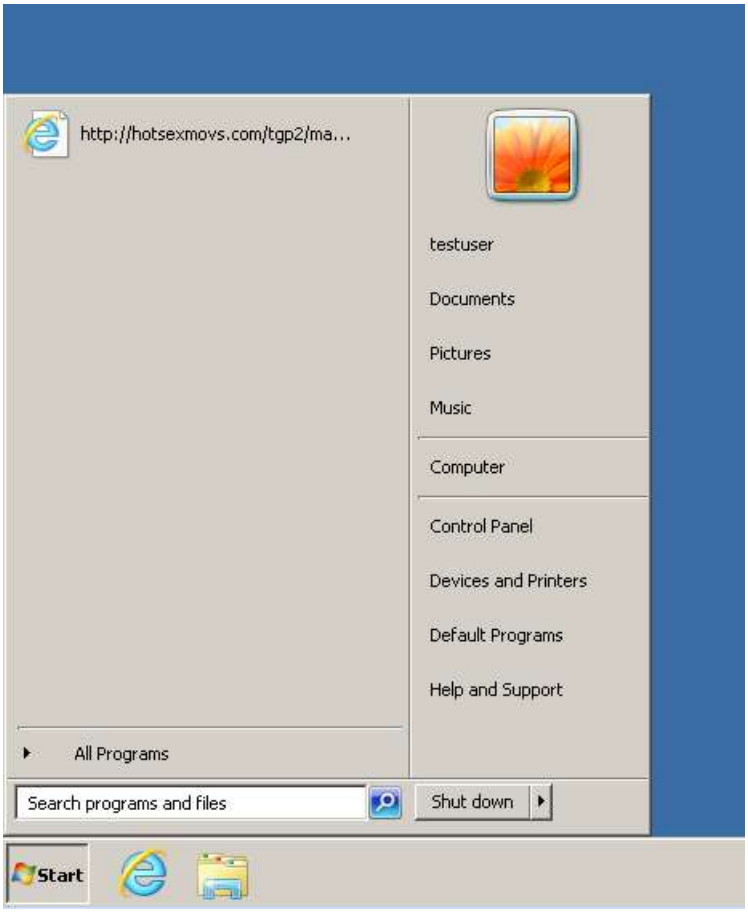
Step 30:
Note that the "Recycle Bin" icon has disappeared from the right-most pane of the "Windows Explorer" window:



Step 31:
For all other hard drives in the left-most pane of the "Windows Explorer" window, perform Step 21 through Step 30.

Step 32:
Click on the Windows "Start" button:

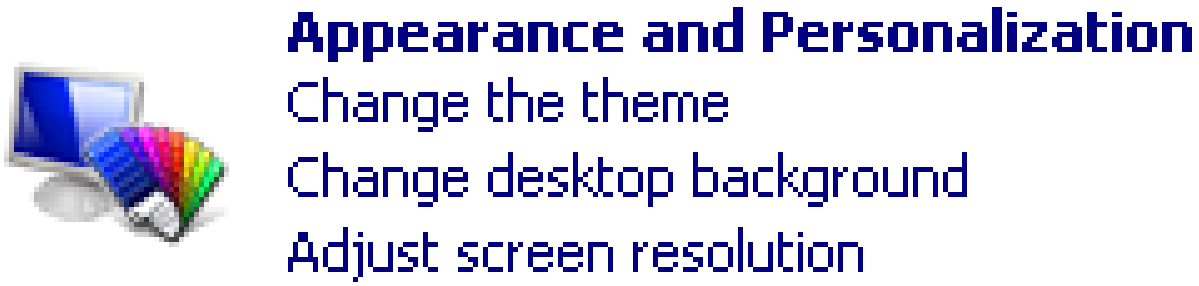
Step 33:
The "Start menu" will be displayed:



Step 34:
Click on "Control Panel" in the "Start menu".

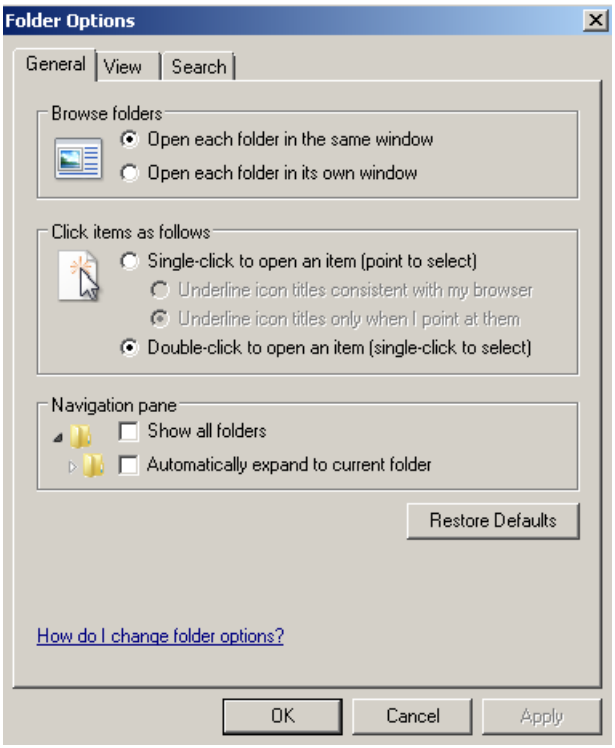
Step 35:
Either a "Control Panel" window or an "All Control Panel Items" window will be displayed.

Step 36:
If "Appearance and Personalization" is available, click on it.



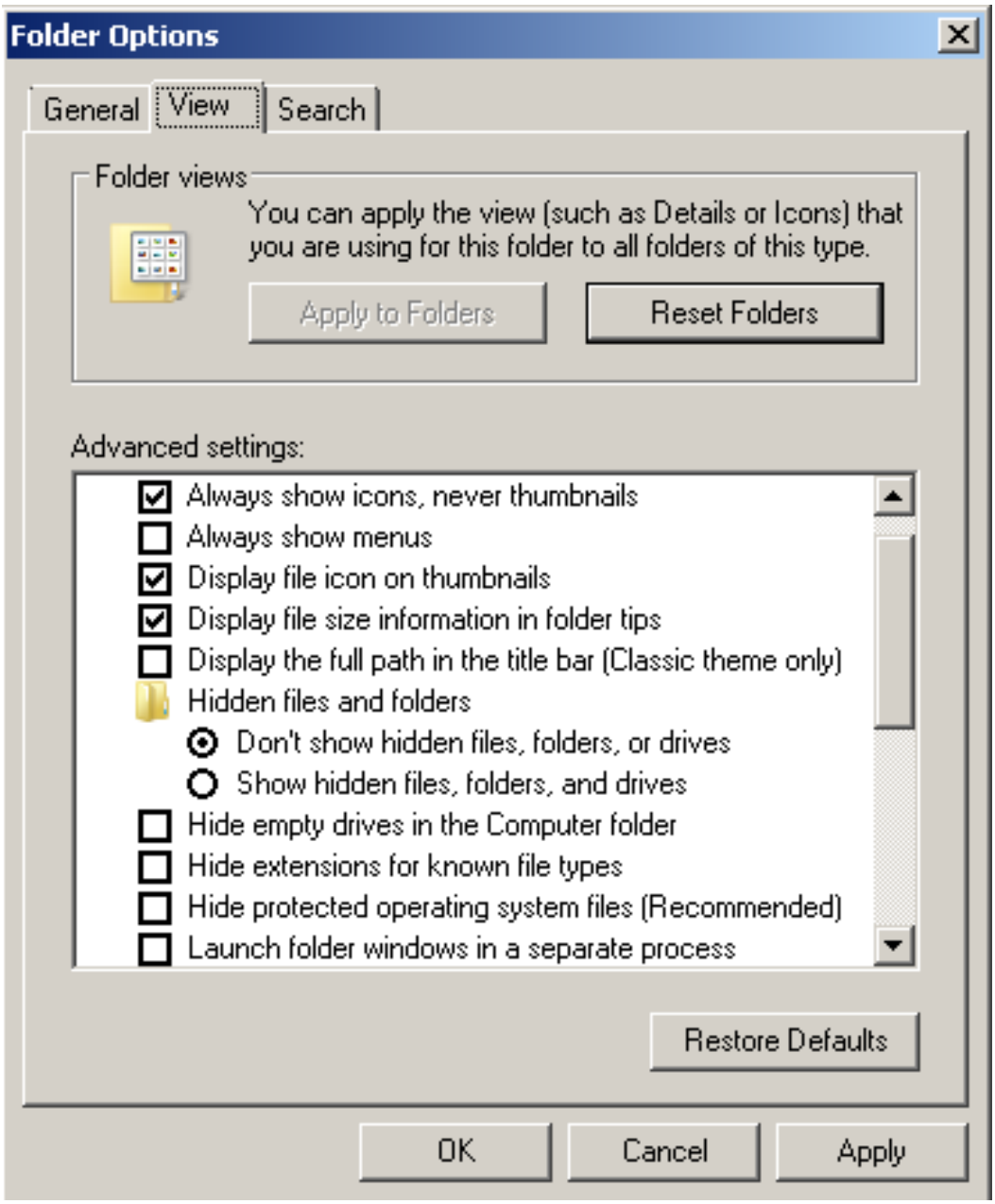
Step 37:
Double-click on "Folder Options":

Step 38:
A "Folder Options" box will be displayed:

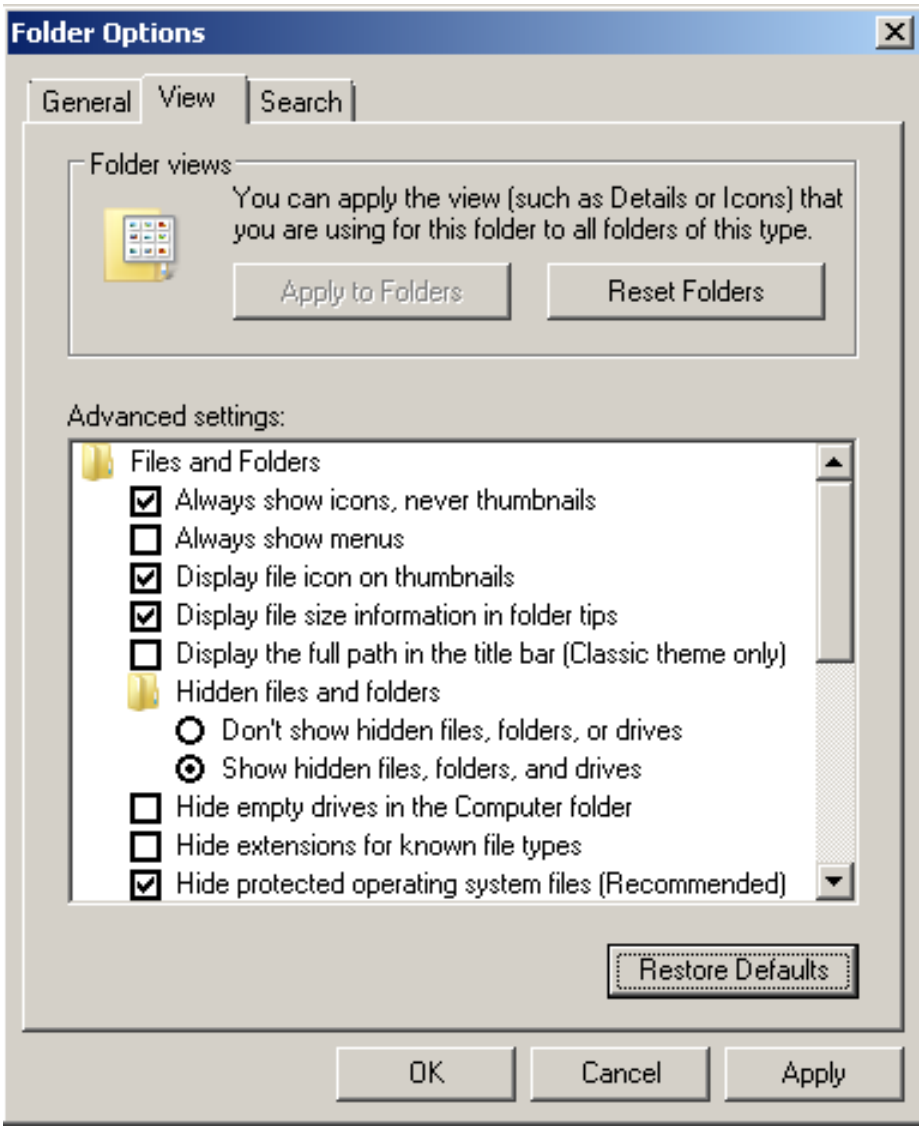


Step 39:
Click on the "View" tab of the "Folder Options" box.

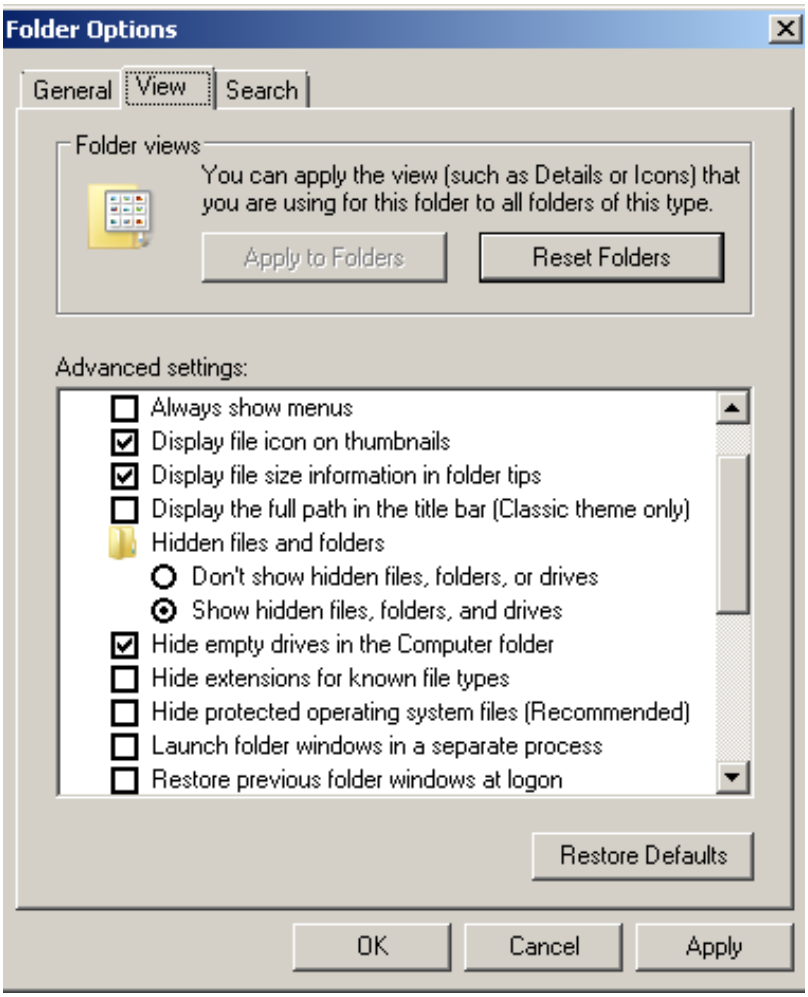
Step 40:
Locate "Hide protected operating system files":



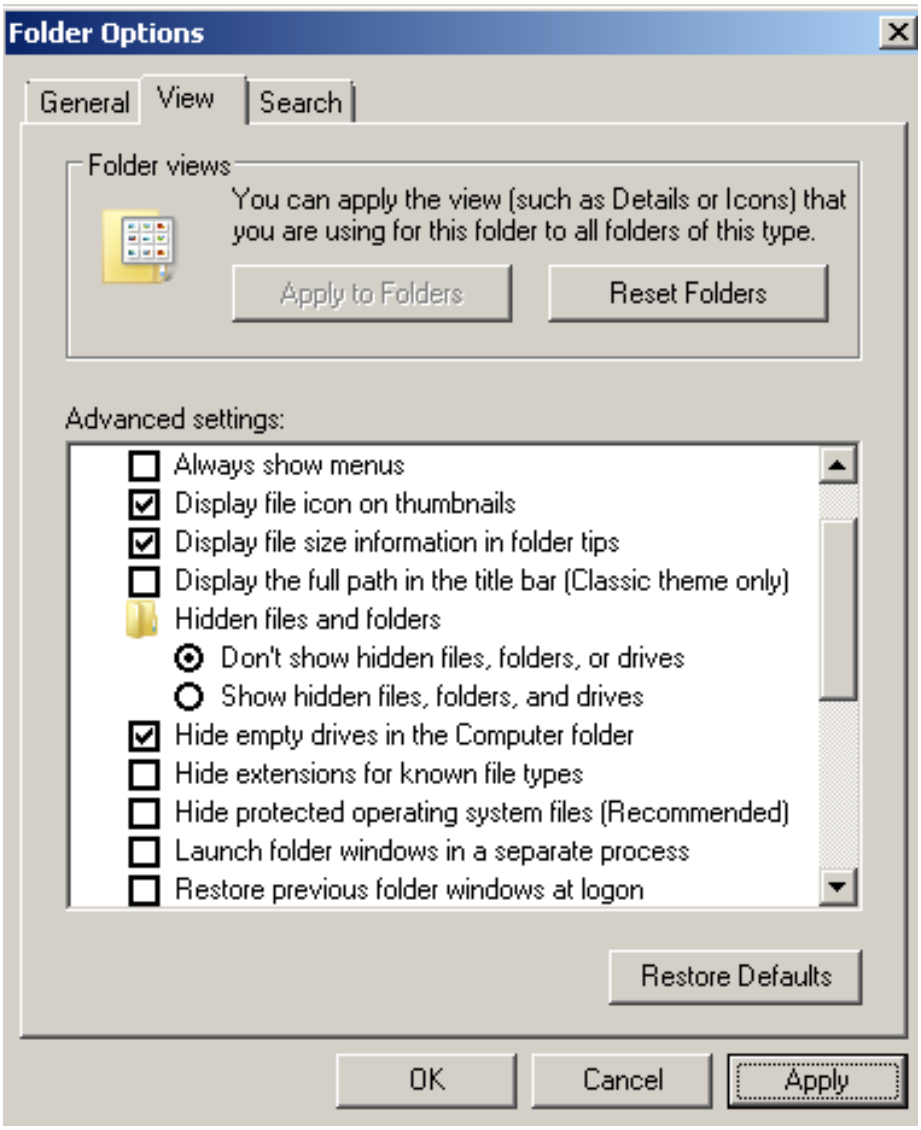
Step 41:
Remove the checkmark from "Hide operating system files" (if a checkmark is there).



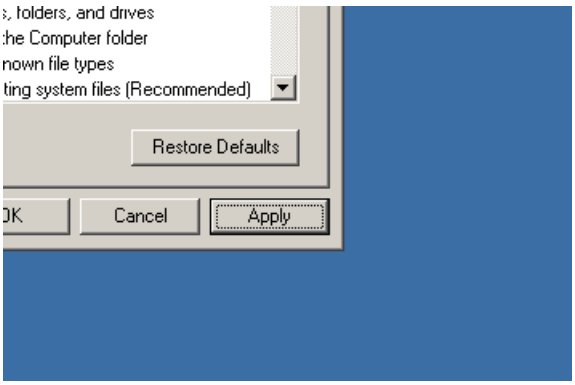
Step 42:
Locate "Don't show hidden files, folders, and drives":



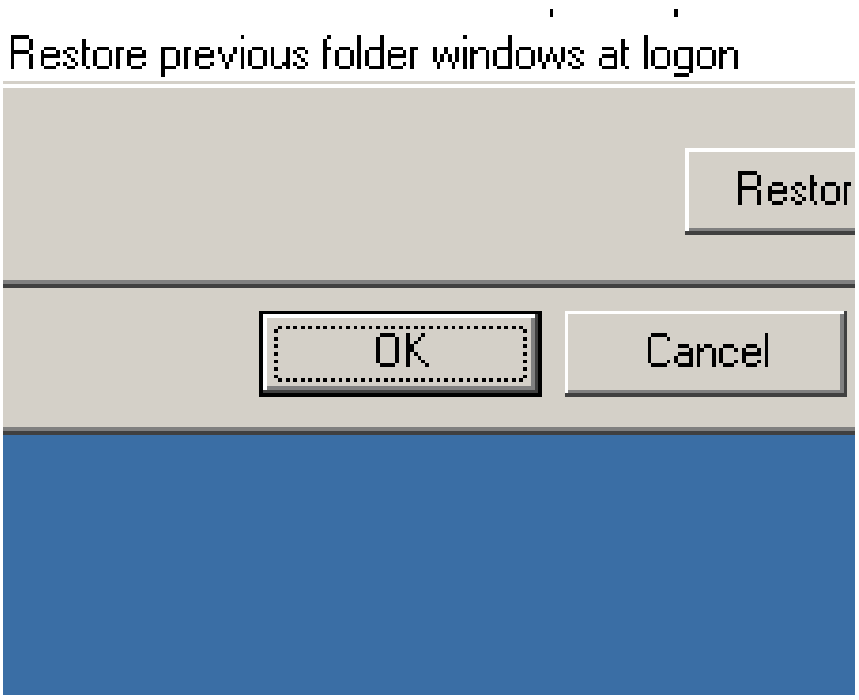
Step 43:
Select "Don't show hidden files, folders, and drives (if it is not already selected).



Step 44:
Click on the "Apply" button of the "Folder Options" box:



Step 45:
Click on the "OK" button of the "Folder Options" box:



Step 46:
The "Folder Options" box will disappear.

Step 47:
Click on the "X" button in the upper right-hand corner of the "Control Panel" or "All Control Panel Items" window.

Step 48:
The "Control Panel" or "All Control Panel Items" window will disappear.

Step 49:
Shutdown and reboot the computer.
During the startup of "Windows", new ("hidden and system") "Recycle Bin" folders will be created for all hard drives.
The "Recycle Bin" should now be repaired.