

Cybersitter is a great program to protect your family from inappropriate material found on the internet. These instructions are to give a little advice and tutoring on how to use Cybersitter. The program works "straight out of the box", but it has a lot of features which can be modified. Most importantly—**set your password!!**

OK... now the details.

Note these options which Cybersitter provides... just browse through the various buttons on the left menu to enable/disable them:

- Selectable blocking of WWW, Newsgroups, Chat, Mail, Messaging programs.
- Detailed log file of user violations.
- Control Internet access by day and time.
- Add custom objectionable sites and personal information.
- Add custom "Always Allowable" sites.
- Allow access to ONLY specified sites ("White List") if desired.
- Optional "Family Friendly" search engine redirection.
- Deny access to TCP/IP ports or port ranges.
- Ignore access to TCP/IP ports or port ranges.
- Remote Control program included allows remote configuration.
- Automatic "Repair" function to fix common problems quickly.
- Full proxy server support including authentication.
- Daily activity reports can be sent to parent or administrator by e-mail.
- User configurable redirection options for blocked sites.
- Automatic update of filter files performed secretly in the background.
- New "Suspend" feature suspends filtering for a user defined number of minutes.

Advanced Features: <http://www.cybersitter.com/advanced.htm>

ONCE INSTALLED:

Set up your CYBERSitter password.

After registering, you will be able to enter a password into CYBERSitter to protect the interface from access. **DO THIS!!!** To enter a password, choose the "Security" tab. Enter the password you wish in the first box and then Tab to the next box and enter the exact same password. Now click the Apply button to confirm entry. The password feature is NOT available until you have purchased and registered CYBERSitter.

MODIFY SETUP:

Modifications to "User Files". This allows you to add your own set of sites which you wish to block or allow.

SEARCH ENGINES

These sites are not "in and of themselves" a problem, but sometimes they drag up stuff from sites without actually displaying the site itself—and that can be a problem. I suggest adding them to your "User Files" list of "Bad Sites":



Note that you don't have to put the brackets in—or you can—either way. If you don't type them, Cybersitter will do it for you.

[mamma.com]
[teoma.com]
[clusty.com]
[kartoo.com]
[tm.ask.com]
[dogpile.com]
[surfwax.com]
[copernic.com]
[vivisimo.com]
[webwombat.com]
[2search.co.nr]
[us.ixquick.com]
[webcrawler.com]
[metasearch.com]
[metacrawler.com]
[searchallinone.com]
[metasearch.langenberg.com]

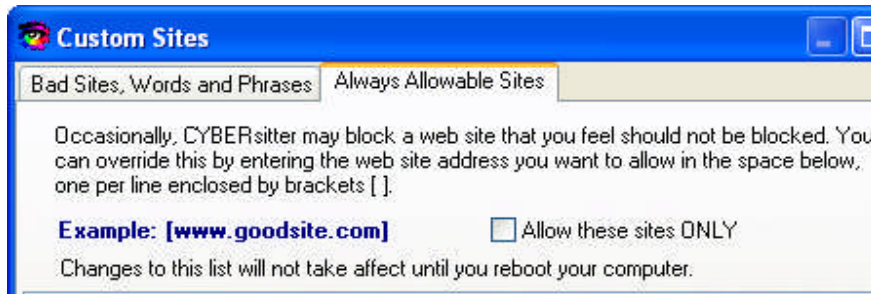
BLOGGING, SOCIAL NETWORKING, GENERAL VIDEO SITES

These too are not “in and of themselves” a problem, but people post items to them—some of which are definitely pornographic. Since the site (in general) isn’t considered problematic by Cybersitter, and since there aren’t too many key words to trigger blocking, these “blogging” and “social networking” sites may display material that is undesired. I suggest adding them to your “User Files” list of “Bad Sites” (as above):

[hi5.com]
[blog.com]
[bebo.com]
[veoh.com]
[blogs.com]
[xanga.com]
[salon.com]
[flickr.com]
[vidilife.com]
[myspace.com]
[youtube.com]
[blogger.com]
[typepad.com]
[facebook.com]
[blogspot.com]
[360.yahoo.com]
[wordpress.com]
[blogdrive.com]
[blogshares.com]
[blogscanada.ca]
[spaces.msn.com]
[livejournal.com]
[msxml.excite.com]
[groups.google.com]
[google.com/imghp?]
[www.blogspirit.com]
[msxml.webcrawler.com]

(You can copy these from this PDF file and paste into your filter.)

NOW, having done that, you may find that a particular site you access regularly is blocked because, for example, it is hosted at “blogger.com”. All you have to do is add THAT specific site to the list of “Always Allowable Sites” and it will then display for you.



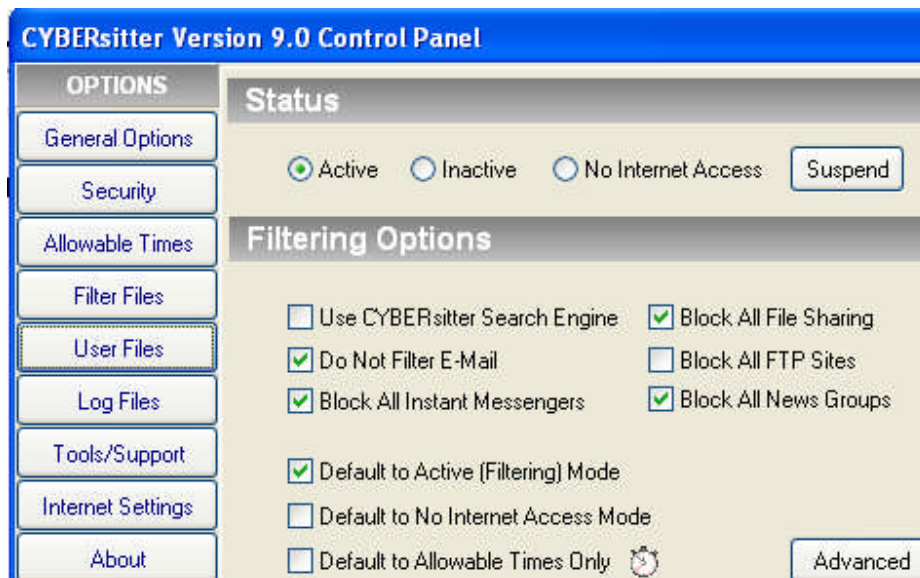
An example might be: [www.yourname.blogspot.com/]

After installation AND configuration—as modified above, if a site access is attempted and is blocked, you will see one of these:

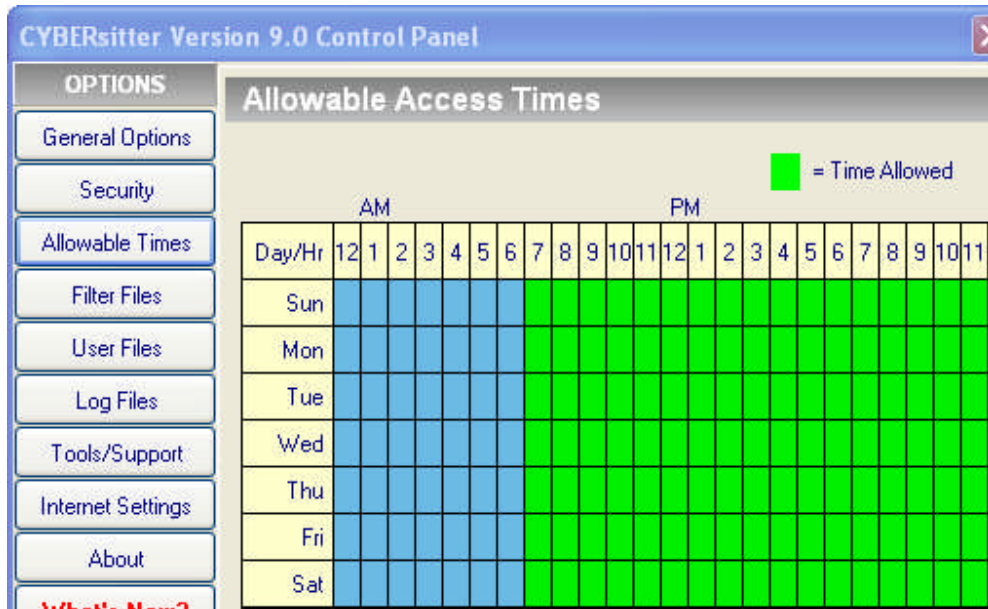
- "no data"
- (a blank browser window)
- <http://www.winlocate.com/>
- <http://www.pick-to-click.com/best-free-stuff.htm>
- <http://www.bestwindowsdownloads.com/>

If the site is legitimate, simply add it to the “Always Allowable Sites” as described above.

**Here are some other options I suggest setting:
Under “General Options”:**

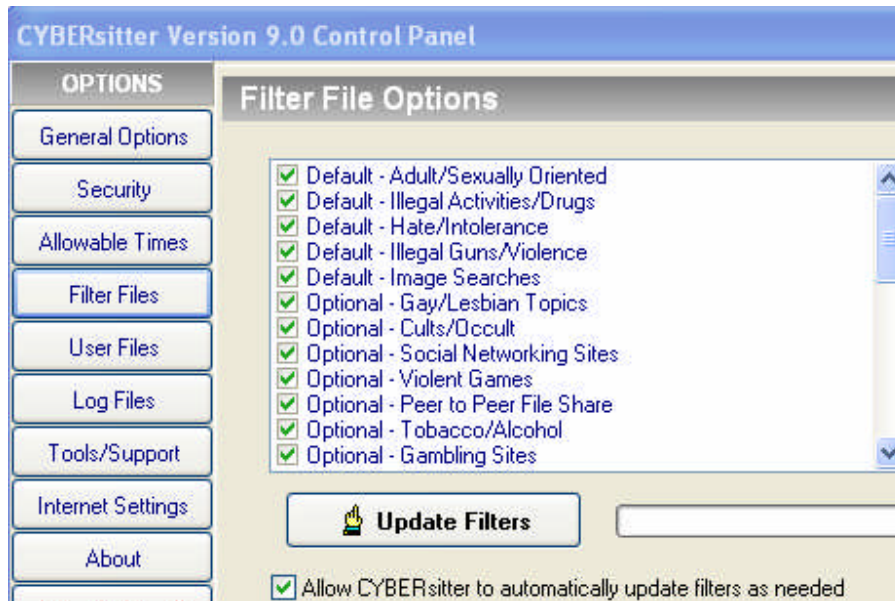


For "Allowable Times", you can just click and drag to select the times you do NOT want (blue) the computer to have internet access—at all.



"Filter Files" (these are categories for Cybersitter to block):

Cybersitter defaults to the top 5 items on their list. I think for most people, the first 12 items (shown here) could be filtered.



...AND possibly the Gambling Sites and Online Chat. Your preference of course!!

Finally,

ONE IDEA... Have the woman of the house set the password as men are especially vulnerable.

ANOTHER SUGGESTION... You can hide the fact that CYBERSitter is running, but leaving it showing in the system tray makes it easier to access and also lets you know for sure that it is running.

STILL ANOTHER... Letting your children and family members KNOW that you can monitor their every site visit is probably preferable to hiding the fact... and then having to deal with a breach in their use of the internet.

ONE LAST SUGGESTION... Do NOT lose your password or you'll have to pay CYBERSitter to reset it for you.

NOTE: If you deactivate Cybersitter in order to access a site which it may be blocking, upon re-activating the filter, you may find that your browser is not responding when attempting web access. This doesn't always happen, but if you'll just close your browser sessions and restart it, it will work fine thereafter.

More reading here: http://www.woodlawn.org/pages/media_internet_safety.php
How filters work: http://www.computing.co.uk/personal-computer-world/features/2045875/filtering-net-nasties?vnu_lt=ctg_art_related_articles