

Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool Administrators Guide

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Malwarebytes

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1.0 Getting Started

Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool is a portable product, designed to allow business users to detect and remove malware from endpoints. It combines the power of our flagship anti-malware product (*Malwarebytes Anti-Malware*) and our cutting edge *Chameleon* technology, which allows *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* to run in environments which often render other anti-malware applications helpless.

Malwarebytes Anti-Malware is considered to be the next step in the detection and removal of malware. We have compiled a number of new technologies that are designed to quickly detect, destroy, and prevent malware. *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* can detect and remove malware that even the most well-known antivirus and antimalware applications on the market today cannot.

Implementation in a portable form provides increased flexibility for IT staff to quickly and easily deploy the product, use it to remediate threats, gather logs, and continue with their daily tasks – all without a large investment in time or resources.

1.1 Key Features

Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool offers the following key features:

- Three different types of scans to analyze your endpoint for malware threats, regardless of whether they are based in memory, file system or registry.
- Ability to perform full scans for all drives.
- Ability to utilize Malwarebytes database updates, assuring that even the newest threats can be detected.
- Intelligent heuristics to analyze potential threats when they are designed to evade signatures.
- Ability to quarantine detected threats, and to selectively restore on demand.
- Ability to deploy product to endpoints using your preferred methods.
- Command line capabilities allow IT staff to modify certain program configuration settings, execute scans, and gather logs through integration with customer-supplied scripts, batch files, and group policy updates.
- Product leaves no lasting footprint on endpoint.
- *Chameleon* technology allows *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* to clean your endpoints even when malware blocks other anti-malware software.

1.2 System Requirements

Following are minimum requirements for an endpoint on which *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* may be installed. Please note that these requirements do not include other functionality that the endpoint is responsible for.

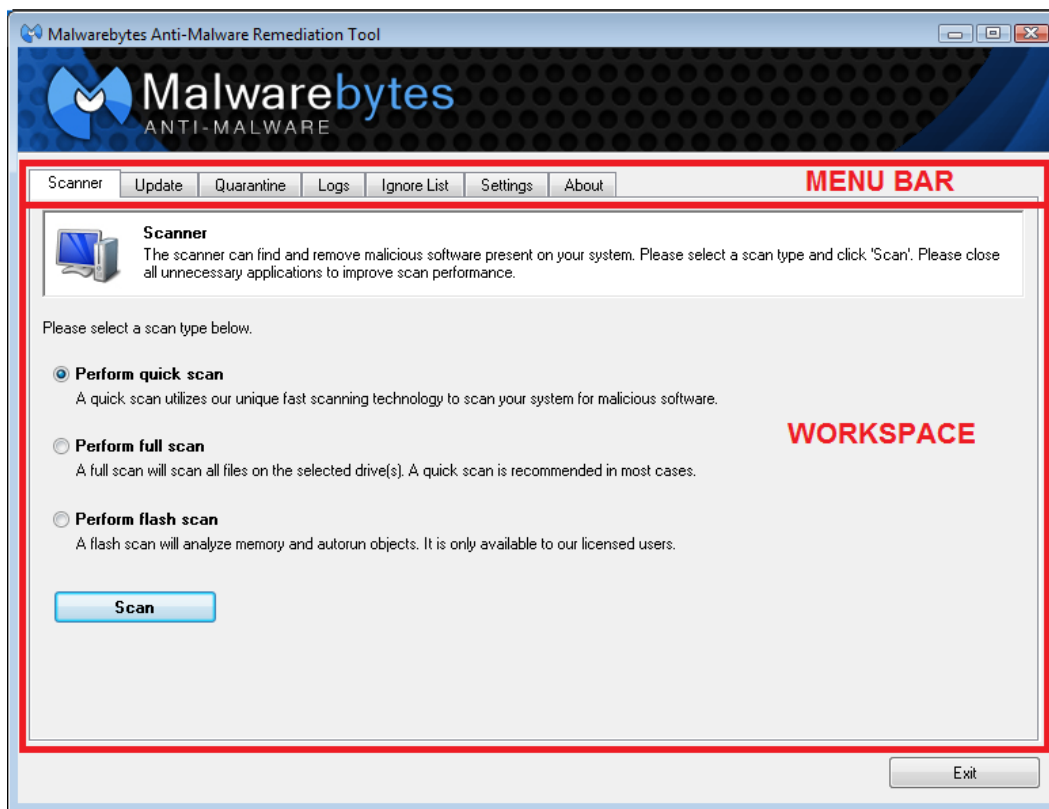
- **Operating System:** Windows 8.1 (32/64-bit), Windows 8 (32/64-bit), Windows 7 (32/64-bit), Windows Vista (32/64-bit), Windows XP (Service Pack 2 or later, 32-bit only)
- **CPU:** 800 MHz or faster
- **RAM:** 256 MB (512 MB or more recommended)
- **Free Disk Space:** 20 MB
- **Screen Resolution:** 800x600 or higher
- **Active Internet Connection**
- **Internet Browser**
- **USB 2.0 Port** (optional, depending on deployment method)

2.0 Using Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool

This section of the guide discusses each program screen, and provides guidance for everyday operation. It is important to note that while all program functionality is available within the user interface, the program also supports interaction via a command line. This is useful when considering that the program may be executed both locally and remotely. A user typically interacts locally, and would use the graphical interface for that purpose. IT staff would likely deploy and execute remotely. It is more convenient for them to use the command line for their needs. The command line interface will be discussed later in this guide. For now, let's look at the user interface.

2.1 Screen Layout

All functionality offered by *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* occurs through the interface shown below. The two major regions of the user interface are shown here, bounded by red borders. The **Menu Bar** provides interactive access to the seven primary functional areas of the program. Selecting any tab changes the information displayed in the **Workspace** region.



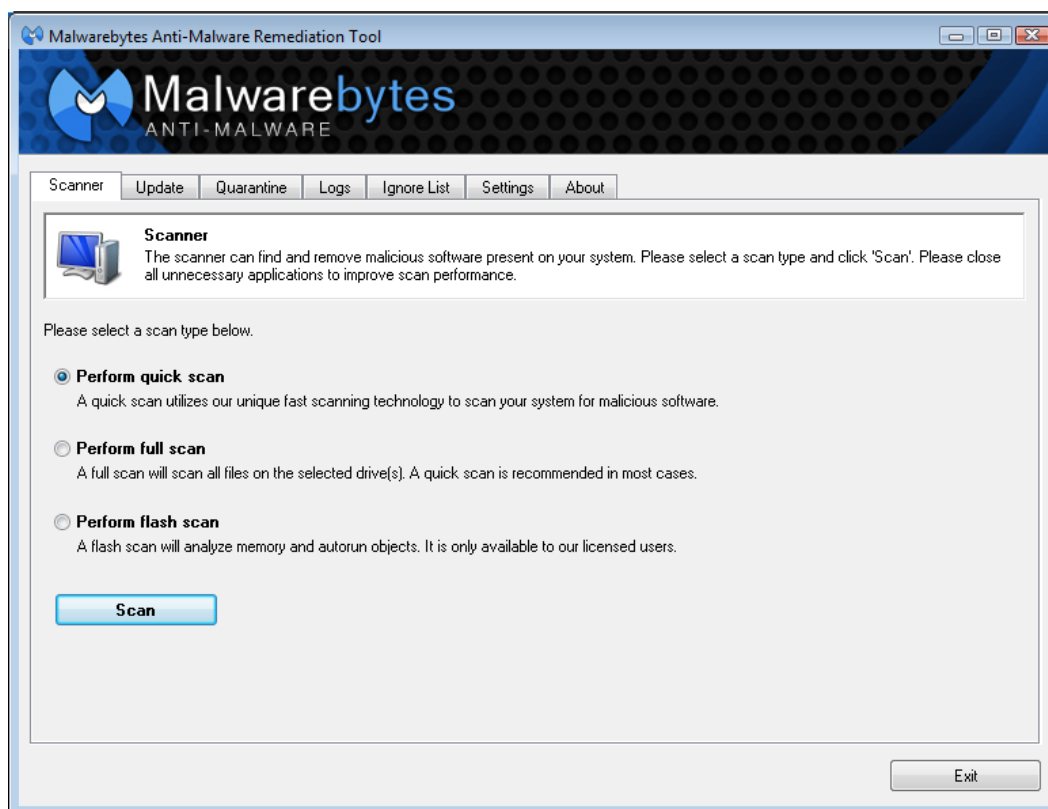
The purpose of each tab on the **Menu Bar** is as follows:

- **Scanner:** Selects a scan type and executes it.
- **Update:** Provides status of signature database, and enables on-demand update.
- **Quarantine:** Management of quarantined threats.
- **Logs:** Access to logs containing scan results
- **Ignore List:** Management of items which will be ignored during scanning.
- **Settings:** Detailed configuration of program, scanner and database updater.
- **About:** Program version, license, and link to on-line help.

As each tab is selected, its background color will change from gray to white. The **Workspace** is then used for functionality associated with the selected tab.

2.2 Scanner Tab

This tab provides the capability to select a method of scanning, and to execute the selected scan. A screenshot is shown below.



Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool offers three methods of scanning an endpoint. They are:

- **Quick Scan:** Scans all system locations where malware is known to install itself. This is the method recommended by Malwarebytes.
- **Full Scan:** Scans all files on selected drive(s). The option to select drives becomes available once the **Scan** button has been clicked. In most cases, a **Quick Scan** is recommended.
- **Flash Scan:** Scans memory and autorun objects only.

After selecting the type of scan – and drives for a Full Scan – click the **Scan** button to initiate the scan. While the scan is running, the screen will show status of the scan in progress. A screenshot of this screen is shown below.



The amount of time required to execute a scan varies widely, depending on the type of scan and the age of the endpoint. A *Flash Scan* is very fast, typically in the neighborhood of 1-2 minutes duration. A *Quick Scan* requires less than 10 minutes. A *Full Scan* may take more than an hour for an endpoint which has been in use for an extended period of time. As a general rule, endpoints which have been *well used* will also have hundreds of thousands of file which must be analyzed. This unavoidably takes time. A newer (or *less busy*) endpoint will require less time because there is less work to do.

Once the scan has completed, a status message will be presented in the middle of your screen. A log which details the scan will be displayed on your screen, and also saved to the *Logs* directory.

2.3 Update Tab

This tab provides information about the signature database which *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* uses to provide protection, as well as allowing the user to check for updates immediately. A screenshot of this tab is shown here.



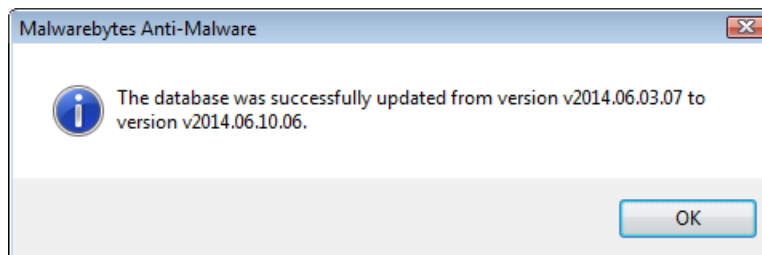
By clicking the *Check for Updates* button, *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* will contact a Malwarebytes internet server and check for available database updates. If an update is available, it will be downloaded and merged into the program's signature database.



Updates are typically available 6-15 times daily. Because *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* is a portable product, updates cannot be received on a scheduled basis. This results in larger updates, though the size of the database as a whole is less than ten megabytes.

HINT: An IT Administrator could maintain a copy of *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* in its extracted form, so that database updates could be downloaded and integrated into the file set prior to re-archiving and deployment.

Following a successful update, a user notification will be provided in a dialog box similar to the one shown here.

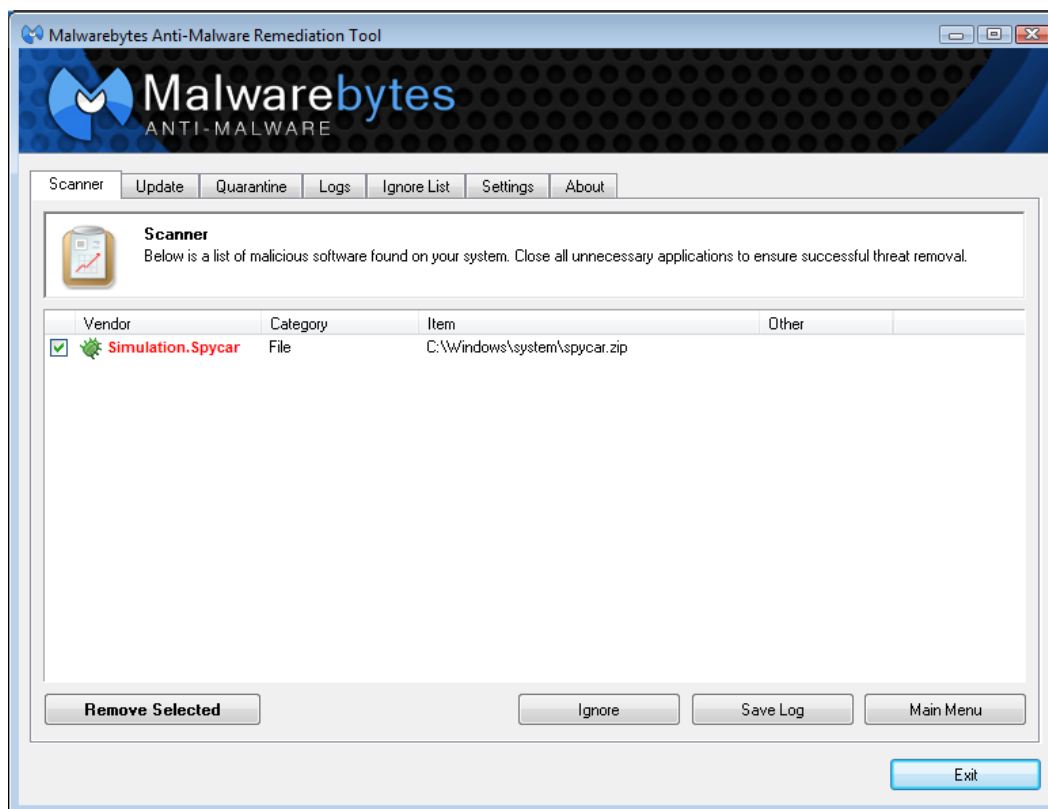


Please note that database updates are shown using the format *yyyy.mm.dd.##*, which specifies the year, month, day, and update number released on the day listed. While the exact time of the update is not shown as part of the filename, dates shown are referenced to Greenwich Mean Time. New York's time zone is GMT-5 (summer GMT-4). San Francisco's time zone is GMT-8 (summer GMT-7). Using those two cities as a reference point for this example, it is possible that updates issued in late afternoon or evening (San Francisco time), or late evening (New York time) would show a date stamp that appears to be in the future. This piece of knowledge may save some confusion.

Additional Update functionality is also available via the command line. This will be discussed later in this guide.

2.4 Quarantine Tab

This tab provides a record of all potential threats which have been detected and prevented from causing any damage. A screenshot is shown below.



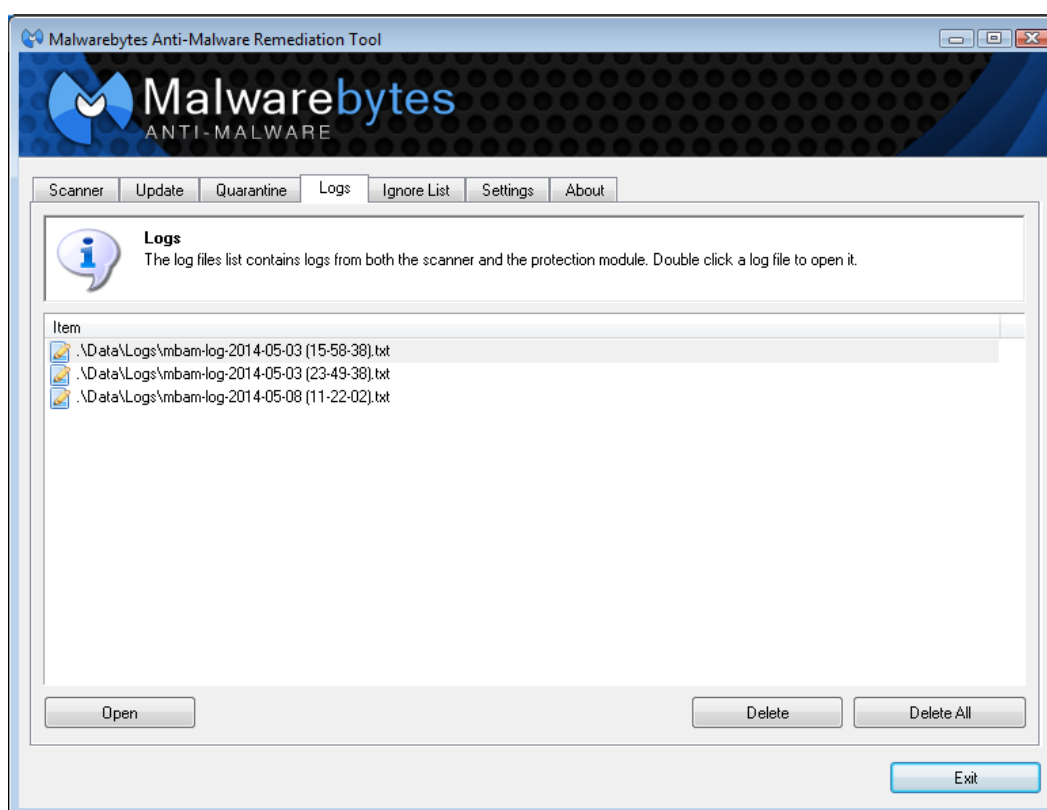
In this screenshot, one file has been detected and isolated so that it cannot cause damage. As part of pertinent information about the file, its location – prior to being quarantined – is shown. This is important to note, because the file may be legitimate. If the user is unsure about the file’s legitimacy, it is up to them to research via the internet or to visit the Malwarebytes public forums in an attempt to learn more about the file before making a final decision. Below the file list, four buttons are available to allow the user to act upon the potential threats. These are:

- **Delete:** Delete a file which has been selected by highlighting it.
- **Delete All:** Delete all files shown on the list
- **Restore:** Restore a file which has been selected by highlighting it.
- **Restore All:** Restore all files shown on the list

2.5 Logs Tab

Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool produces a log file as part of each scan which it executes. This tab provides an itemization of those logs, and allows access to them as well. Each log file contains program configuration and scan results. The file’s name is based on the endpoint’s internal clock, and shows the date and time that the scan was initiated. In the case of a full system scan, that could be an hour or more prior to the scan’s completion time. Knowing this may help avoid some confusion. The location of the log is shown along with the filename.

A screenshot of the **Logs** screen is shown here.



You may open any log by highlighting it and clicking the **Open** button. You may delete any log by highlighting it and clicking the **Delete** button. You may delete all logs at once by clicking the **Delete All** button.

2.6 Ignore List Tab

This tab contains an itemization of files which are ignored by the scanner. You may add files to this list via a Windows Explorer-like window displayed when you click the **Add** button. You may delete individual files by highlighting the file and clicking the **Delete** button, and you may delete all files from the list by clicking the **Delete All** button.

Files may also be added to this list if a threat is detected, and you elect to quarantine the detected file.

NOTE: If a password has been defined (in **Settings**), it will be required to access this tab. See Section 2.7 for further details.

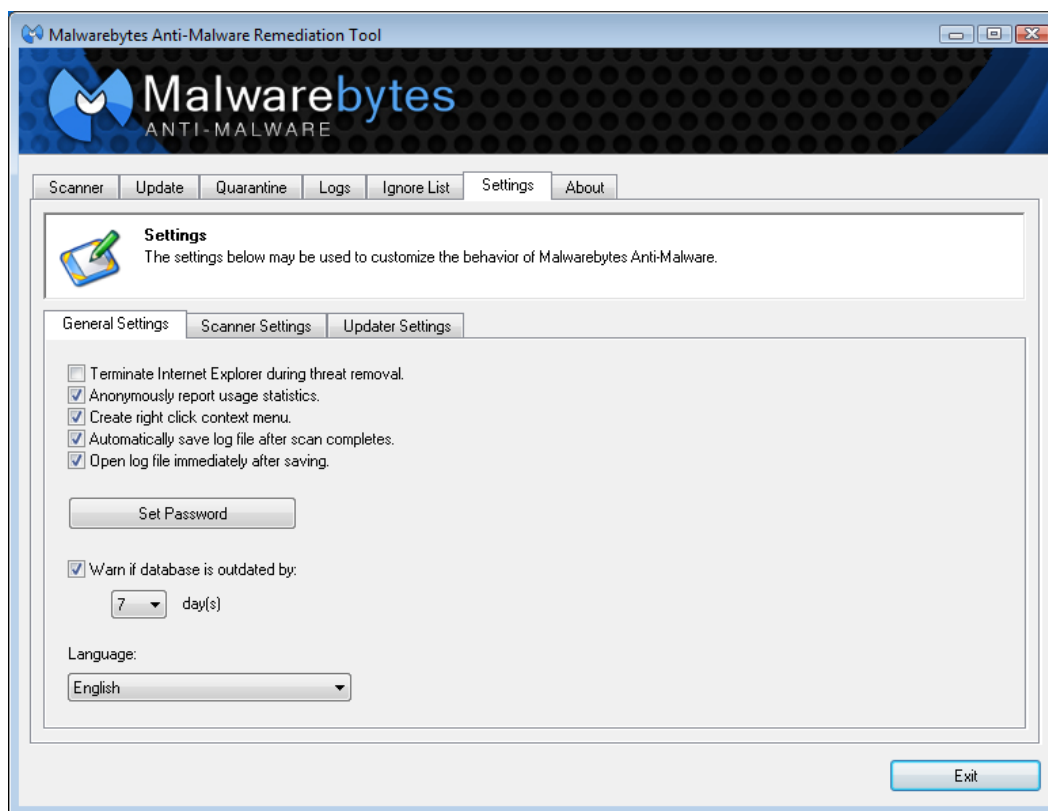
2.7 Settings Tab

This tab provides a majority of the configuration settings for *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*. In order to provide an uncluttered interface, this tab is subdivided into three tabs. We will look at each of those tabs in detail here.

NOTE: If a password has been set, it will be required to access this tab.

2.7.1 General Settings

This tab contains several settings which control basic behavior of *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*. A screenshot of the *General Settings* tab is shown below.



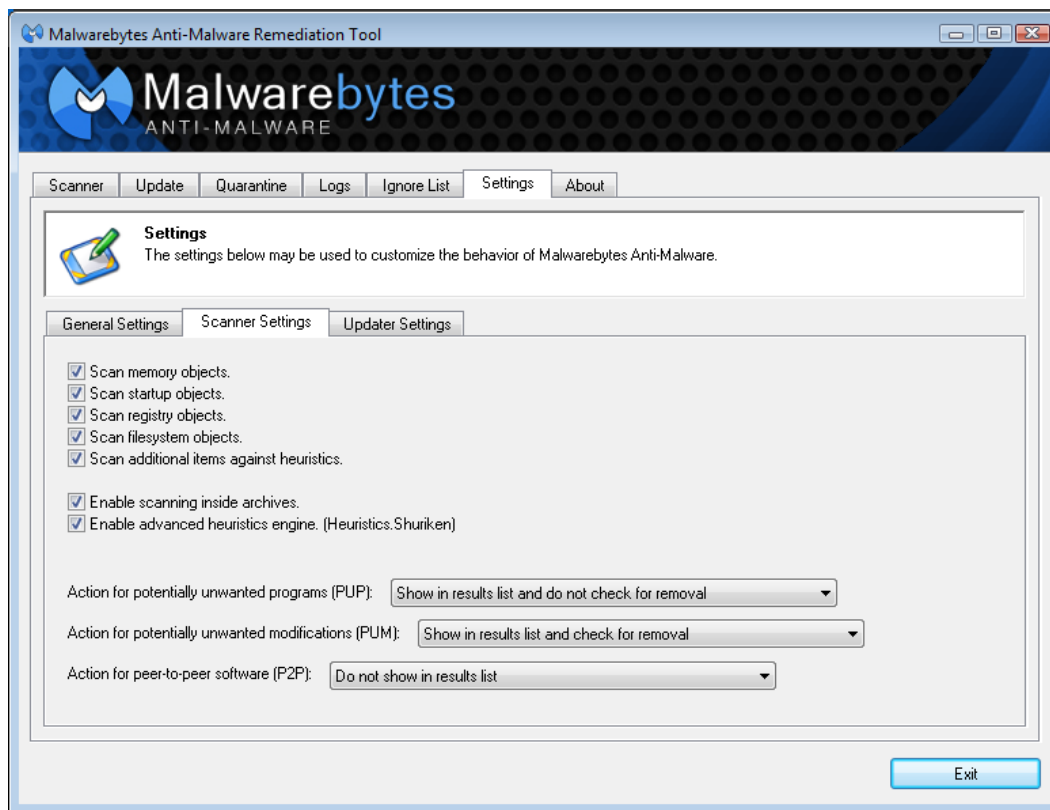
Individual settings which may be configured here are:

- **Terminate Internet Explorer during threat removal:** Enabling this option allows *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* to terminate Internet Explorer browsing sessions automatically before removing threats detected in the Temporary Internet Files folder. If this setting is not enabled, a reboot may be required to complete the threat removal process for these types of infections. **Please note** that when this setting is enabled, any work that is currently in process may be lost if a reboot is required.

- **Anonymously report usage statistics:** This option automatically collects statistical information on malware threats detected on your system, and reports that information to our Threat Research Center. No personally identifiable or personal information is collected.
- **Create right click context menu:** This option is disabled in *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*.
- **Automatically save log file after scan completes:** Create a log file each time a scan is performed.
- **Open log file immediately after saving:** Automatically open the log file created by the scan once the scan has completed.
- **Set Password:** Set a password. Any characters except for quotes (") are allowed to be used. To reset/remove the password, click the *Set Password* button, enter the current password, and then leave both fields blank and click **Submit**. The password restricts access to the *Ignore List* and *Settings* tabs.
- **Warn if database is outdated by <x> days:** If a database update has not occurred within <x> days, this option enables display of a pop-up notification to warn the user that database signatures are outdated.
- **Language:** This option is disabled in *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*.

2.7.2 Scanner Settings

This tab controls settings which are specific to scanning functionality within the program. A screenshot is shown below.



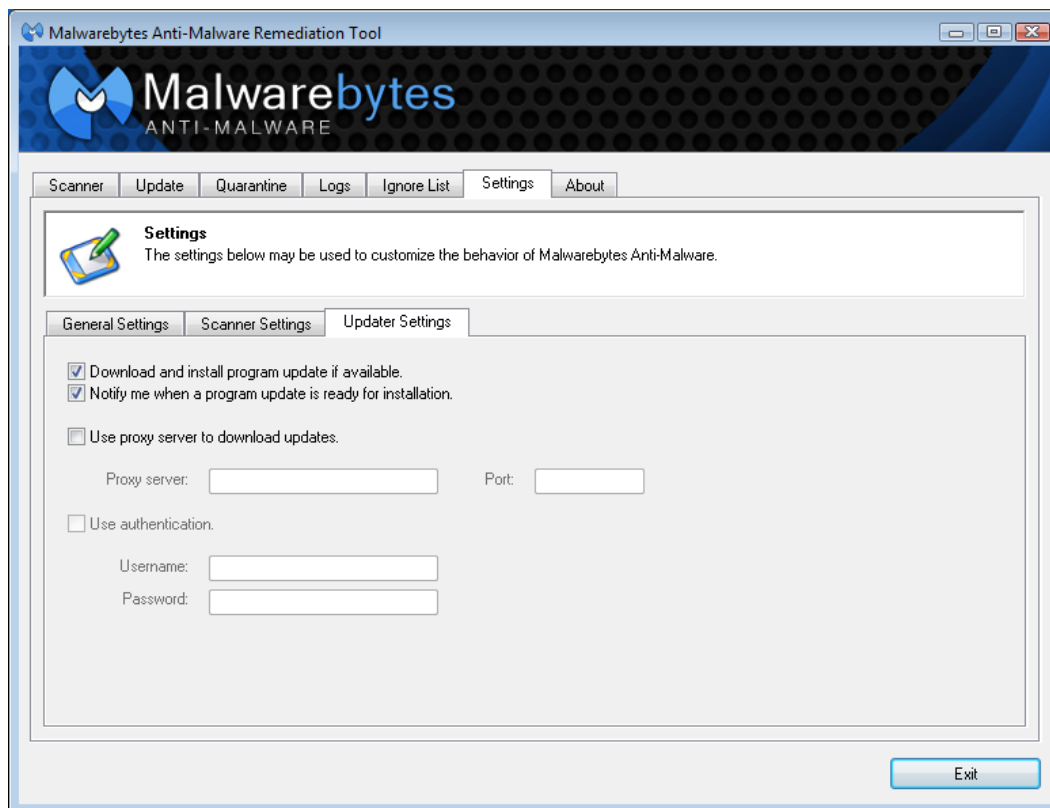
Individual settings which may be configured here are:

- **Scan Memory Objects:** Scans all processes running in memory when a scan is performed to check for actively running infections.
- **Scan StartUp Objects:** Scans known startup locations which threats might use to start themselves when the computer boots.
- **Scan Registry Objects:** Scans the Windows registry to check for installed threats and malicious alterations of certain Windows settings.

- **Scan Filesystem Objects:** Scans files and folders on the system to check for infected files. The number of files and folders scanned and their location varies depending on the type of scan.
- **Scan Additional Items Against Heuristics:** Performs a check of key files, folders and registry locations against our very powerful heuristics database to look for infections not found by other parts of the scan.
- **Enable Scanning inside Archives:** Includes checking archive files (ZIP, RAR etc.) in the locations scanned.
- **Enable Advanced Heuristics Engine (Heuristics Shuriken):** Enables our latest heuristics detection engine to perform a more advanced analysis of the system for new threats not in our detection database, possibly finding threats the other parts of the scan cannot yet find.
- **Action for Potentially Unwanted Programs (PUP):** Detects known, non-malicious software which may cause undesirable performance or issues for the computer.
- **Action for Potentially Unwanted Modifications (PUM):** Identifies system setting modifications which may have an adverse effect or direct impact on available functionality or system resources.
- **Action for Peer-To-Peer Software (P2P):** Detects file sharing software installed on the system. Available actions and definition for the above 3 settings:
 - **Do not show in results list:** Items of this type will not be detected or shown in the scanned results list.
 - **Show in results list and check for removal:** Items of this type will be detected, shown in the results list and marked for removal.
 - **Show in results list and do not check for removal:** The detected item is shown in the scan results list but will not be selected for removal. Each item must be checked manually for removal.

2.7.3 Updater Settings

This tab provides settings pertaining to program updates and communication settings required for **all** updates. A screenshot is shown below.



Individual settings which may be configured here are:

- **Download and install program update if available:** When checked, new programs versions (if available) will be downloaded automatically whenever the program checks for database updates.
- **Notify me when a program update is ready for installation:** If a program update has been downloaded and this checkbox is enabled, the system tray icon will display a tooltip balloon to let the user know that a new version of *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* has been downloaded and is ready to be installed.
- **Use proxy server to download updates:** When checked, the IP address (or Fully-Qualified Domain Name) and port number of a proxy server must be specified. If a proxy server is needed for communication to the public internet, this setting *is mandatory* to receive program updates and database updates.
- **Use authentication:** If a proxy server is used and requires user authentication, this box should be checked and a valid username/password combination should be supplied. This is used only for proxy server communications, and nowhere else in the program.

2.8 About Tab

This tab is primarily informational in nature. It is shown below.



The version and build number of the program are provided here. This information would be requested from you if you contacted Malwarebytes Technical Support for assistance. There are also buttons which (when clicked) link you to the Malwarebytes web site, and to an abbreviated form of this guide.

3.0 Command Line Parameters

Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool supports a variety of command line parameters, which can be used from a command prompt, batch file or script. When used from a script, additional commands may be required to support the scripting model being used.

3.1 Conventions

The command line structure uses parameters and modifiers. Parameters are specified with a forward slash ("/") and modifiers are called with a hyphen ("-"). They must be separated by spaces. Multiple modifiers may be combined with a parameter. In addition, the following conventions are used:

- Required specifications are encased by angle brackets
Example: **mbam <parameter_1>**
- Optional specifications are encased by square brackets
Example: **mbam <parameter_1> [parameter_2]**
- Repeated items are shown by a grouping of dots
Example: **mbam <parameter_1> [parameter_2] ... [parameter_n]**
- Choice of specifications are separated by vertical bars
Example: **mbam <0|1|2|3>**

3.2 Command Line Reference

Commands listed here are listed individually, though multiple parameters may be included in the same command. These are primarily used by a system administrator via script, batch file, GPO update, or remote desktop. The admin may configure *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool* to operate as a remote task, invisible to the endpoint user. When this is the case, command line tools offer the only method of modifying program configuration on the endpoint.

3.2.1 Suppress Error Reporting

Usage:

mbam /errorsilent

Purpose:

Suppresses all critical errors during operation and write the last error to <root-drive>\mbam-error.txt, where <root-drive> is the drive where Windows is installed (System Drive).

Parameters:

none

3.2.2 Update

Usage:

mbam /update [-silent]

Purpose:

Request an update for the *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* signature database, and check for program updates. If updates are found, they will be integrated automatically.

Parameters:

-silent Perform the update check in the background (invisible to the user)

Examples:

- **mbam /update** checks for program/database updates
- **mbam /update -silent** checks for program/database updates in the background

3.2.3 Proxy Communications

Usage:

mbam /proxy [server] [port] [username] [password]

Purpose:

This command defines proxy settings which may be required to receive database updates. Leave blank to remove previously-defined proxy settings.

Parameters:

server	Enter an IP address or server name if required to access the internet
port	Enter communication port number defined for proxy communications
username	Enter a username if required
password	Enter a password if authentication is required

Examples:

- **mbam /proxy** will remove defined proxy settings.
- **mbam /proxy proxy.com 80** will use proxy.com on port 80 with no credentials.
- **mbam /proxy proxy.com 80 admin password** will use proxy.com with the specified credentials.

3.2.4 Scan

Usage:

mbam /scan [-quick|-full|-flash] [-silent] [-remove] [-terminate] [-reboot] [-log]

Purpose:

Perform a scan according to specifications provided.

Parameters:

-quick	Perform a quick scan.
-full	Perform a full scan on all non-removable drives.
-flash	Perform a flash scan (memory and heuristics only).
-terminate	Closes the program after a scan completes if no threats were found (cannot be used with -silent). If an item is detected, the program remains open so that the user can decide whether or not to remove the detected threat(s).
-log	Overrides the Save Log checkmark on the settings tab. If the Automatically save log after scan completes option is unchecked, a log file will still be saved when the -log parameter is used.
-silent	Hides the GUI while scanning (does not need to be used with -terminate).
-reboot	Reboots the computer if necessary, only valid if -remove is used.
-remove	Automatically removes threats and saves a log file. GUI stays open unless -silent is specified.

Examples:

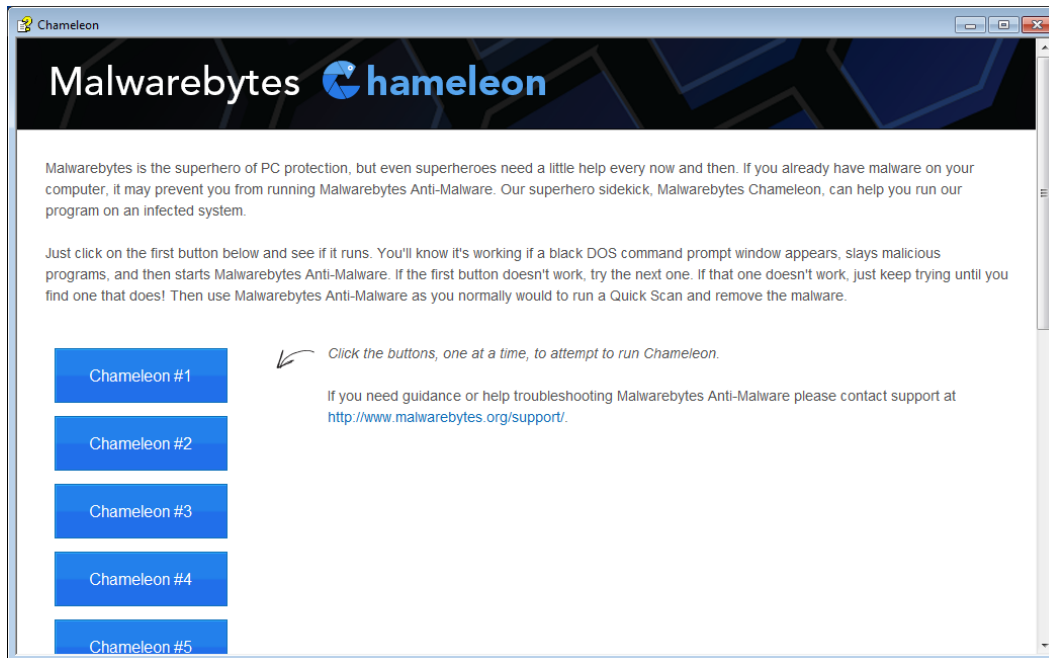
- **mbam /scan** will run a default scan.
- **mbam /scan -full** will run a full scan.
- **mbam /scan -flash -terminate** will run a flash scan and terminate if no objects are detected.
- **mbam /scan -quick -log -silent -remove -reboot** runs a silent quick scan, saves logs, automatically removes threats, and reboots if necessary.

Limitations:

- **-terminate** cannot be used with **-silent** since the program will automatically terminate when **-silent** is used.
- **-reboot** is only valid if used with **-remove**.

4.0 Malwarebytes Chameleon

Malwarebytes Chameleon is a set of new technologies designed to allow *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* to execute on a computer when it has been prevented from doing so by specific malware infections. There are several methods available to launch Chameleon, all of which are detailed in the following steps. The screenshot below shows the Chameleon program screen once the program has been launched. Please note that this screen has been resized so that all text can be shown.



The primary methods of accessing and using Chameleon are shown below.

4.1 Using the Chameleon.chm Help File via Explorer

1. Go to the directory where you installed *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*, navigate to the **Chameleon** subdirectory, and double-click on the **chameleon.chm** help file.
2. Once the "Help" file opens, click each **Chameleon #** button until you see a black DOS/command prompt window that remains open and says **MBAM-chameleon ver. #** at the top. If your host operating system is Windows Vista, Windows 7 or Windows 8, you may see a User Account Control prompt. If so, click **Yes**.
3. Press any key to continue.
4. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then update *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware*. Please ensure that you are connected to the internet if possible. Once the update completes and it says your database has been updated, click **OK**.
5. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then terminate threats running in memory. Please be patient...this may take a while. Upon completion, *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* will open automatically and perform a Quick Scan.
6. Once the scan is complete, click on **Show Results**. You may remove any threats which have been found by clicking **Remove Selected**.
7. If prompted to restart the computer to complete the removal process, click **Yes**.
8. After the computer restarts, open *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* and perform one last Quick Scan to verify that no threats remain.

4.2 Using the Chameleon.chm Help File via Task Manager

1. Press **Ctrl+Shift+Esc** on the keyboard.
2. Once **Task Manager** opens, click on **File** at the top and choose **New Task (Run...)**.
3. Click the **Browse...** button.
4. Navigate to the **Chameleon** subdirectory underneath *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*.
5. Click on the drop-down menu that says **Programs** and choose **All Files**.
6. Double-click on the **Chameleon.chm** help file.
7. Once the "Help" file opens, click each **Chameleon #** button until you see a black DOS/command prompt window that remains open and says MBAM-chameleon ver. # at the top.
8. Press any key to continue.
9. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then update *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware*. Please ensure that you are connected to the internet if possible. Once the update completes and it says your database has been updated, click **OK**.
10. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then terminate threats running in memory. Please be patient...this may take a while. Upon completion, *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* will open automatically and perform a Quick Scan.
11. Once the scan is complete, click on **Show Results**. You may remove any threats which have been found by clicking **Remove Selected**.
12. If prompted to restart the computer to complete the removal process, click **Yes**.
13. After the computer restarts, open *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* and perform one last Quick Scan to verify that no threats remain.

4.3 Using the Chameleon.chm Help File via Internet Browser

1. Open the internet browser (for example, **Internet Explorer**, **Firefox** or **Google Chrome**).
2. Press the **Alt** key on the keyboard.
3. In the menu that appears at the top, click on **File** and choose **Open** or **Open File**.
4. In the browse window that opens, navigate to the **Chameleon** subdirectory underneath *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*.
5. Double-click on the **Chameleon.chm** help file. If you do not see it, click on the drop-down menu that says **Web Documents** and choose **All Files**.
6. Once the "Help" file opens, click each **Chameleon #** button until you see a black DOS/command prompt window that remains open and says MBAM-chameleon ver. # at the top. If your host operating system is Windows Vista, Windows 7 or Windows 8, you may see a User Account Control prompt. If so, click **Yes**.
7. Press any key to continue.
8. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then update *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware*. Please ensure that you are connected to the internet if possible. Once the update completes and it says your database has been updated, click **OK**.
9. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then terminate threats running in memory. Please be patient...this may take a while. Upon completion, *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* will open automatically and perform a Quick Scan.
10. Once the scan is complete, click on **Show Results**. You may remove any threats which have been found by clicking **Remove Selected**.
11. If prompted to restart the computer to complete the removal process, click **Yes**.
12. After the computer restarts, open *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* and perform one last Quick Scan to verify that no threats remain.

4.4 Chameleon.chm Will Not Open Due to Infection

1. Navigate to the **Chameleon** subdirectory underneath *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware Remediation Tool*.
2. Next, double-click on each file one by one until you find one that works, which will be indicated by a black DOS/command prompt window. If your host operating system is Windows Vista, Windows 7 or Windows 8, you may see a User Account Control prompt when attempting to open the files. If so, click **Yes**

Warning: Do not attempt to open file **mbam-killer.exe**. This file serves a different purpose.

3. Press any key to continue.
4. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then update *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware*. Please ensure that you are connected to the internet if possible. Once the update completes and it says your database has been updated, click **OK**.
5. *Malwarebytes Chameleon* will then terminate threats running in memory. Please be patient...this may take a while. Upon completion, *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* will open automatically and perform a Quick Scan.
6. Once the scan is complete, click on **Show Results**. You may remove any threats which have been found by clicking **Remove Selected**.
7. If prompted to restart the computer to complete the removal process, click **Yes**.
8. After the computer restarts, open *Malwarebytes Anti-Malware* and perform one last Quick Scan to verify that no threats remain.

4.5 Other Methods

You may also mix the techniques described above. For example, if the CHM help file will not open via Task Manager or an internet browser, you can use that same method to try and run the Chameleon executables one by one. You can also try booting the endpoint into Safe Mode with Networking (so that you have internet access for downloading updates).

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