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Cannot Run Apache Server or Ports 80/443 Occupied on many Windows 10 PCs

Many Windows 10 machines have mysterious problems with port 80 and 443 being consumed and many people in the world including engineers at Microsoft forums are ambiguous to resolve this problem. If you install XAMPP, WAMP or pure Apache server, it may give you some clue about process id 4 “NT Kernel & System” program occupying those ports. That system program is actually “**ntoskrnl.exe**” in System32 directory. It cannot be touched, renamed, deleted or done anything with. Don’t try to do anything with that program for all attempts will be futile. Some guy in many forums is telling people to disable “world wide web publishing service” but there is no such service in Windows 10 or any such services that can be turned off to remedy this situation in “local services”. Windows 10 stupidly and confusingly have different types of services appearing in taskbar tab versus local services. Taskbar services and local services are NOT the same. You need to turn off **MsDepSvc** service in taskbar services in order to free those ports and deploy Apache. I discovered it. None of the forums on the internet, including those Microsoft official help forums have this explicit information to help out poor confused developers. Many people abandoned their Windows 10 machines entirely as development tool because of this stupid mysterious problem. Some latest Windows 10 machines bought from retails don’t have this problem, but mine had this. I hope my efforts in writing this article contribute to fellow geeks to pay back what I could do for others in return.

-Christopher McGrath

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