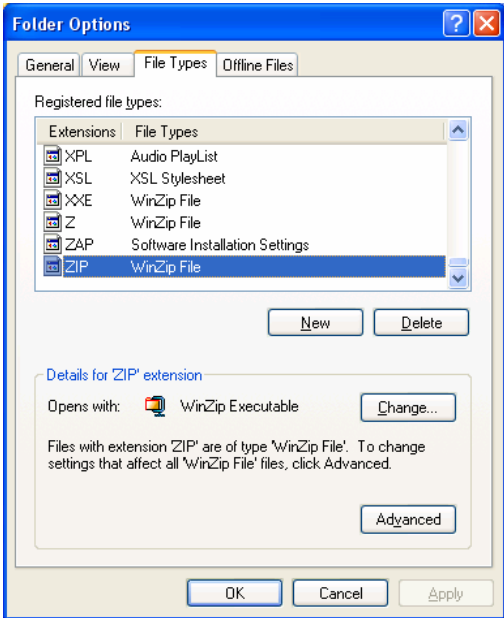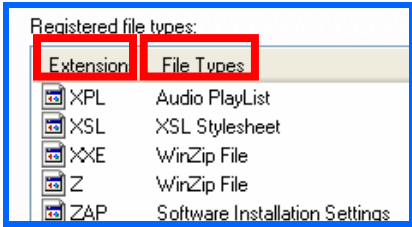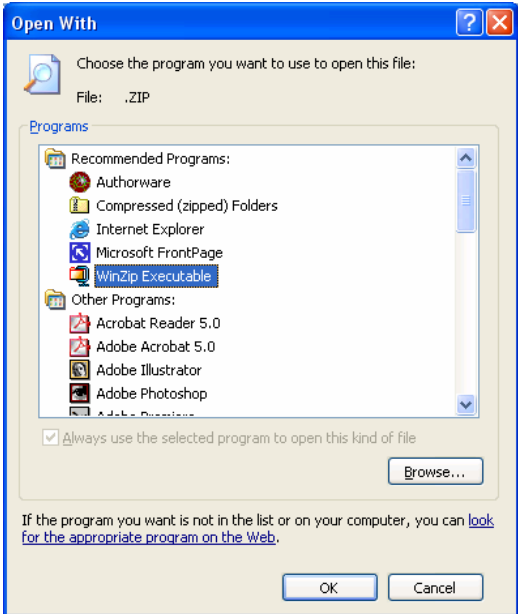**Purpose:**   The principle reason for these instructions is to "disassociate files from an application."

For example, after double-clicking a file in Microsoft Explorer, it opens by default to the wrong application.   If a file named testing_file.zip is double-clicked in Microsoft Explorer, the application that you would like to open the file is Win Zip. However, if the application opened is 7-Zip (and not Win Zip), then the application (7-Zip) should be disassociated from files containing the .zip extension (the suffix after the dot) and reassociated with the proper application (Win Zip).

These basic instructions are to intended to correct the association between the file extensions and their applications.

Version: Operating System – Windows XP

Description	Step	Screen Captures and Examples
Open Microsoft Explorer	Right click Start and click Explorer.	
	In the text menu bar, select Tools, Folder Options.	
	Select the File Types tab.	

	Scroll to the extension that needs to be disassociated. **TIP:** If the extension list is not in alphabetic order, click the header "Extension." If you would like the list to be sorted by "File Types", click the header "File Types."	Registered file types: Extension File Types XPL Audio PlayList XSL XSL Stylesheet XXE WinZip File Z WinZip File ZAP Software Installation Settings
	Select the extension or file type to be modified.	**Example:** If a file named testing_file.zip is double-clicked in Microsoft Explorer, the application that you would like to open the file is Win Zip. However, it opens to another application. In this step, ZIP is the extension to be modified.
	Click the Change button.	
	The "Open With" window displays "Recommended Programs" and "Other Programs." Click the program/application that should be associated with the extension. **NOTE:** If after scrolling through the list, the application is not shown, then click Browse to find the executable (.exe) file that should launch the application.	Open With Choose the program you want to use to open this file: File: .ZIP Programs Recommended Programs: Authorware Compressed (zipped) Folders Internet Explorer Microsoft FrontPage WinZip Executable Other Programs: Acrobat Reader 5.0 Adobe Acrobat 5.0 Adobe Illustrator Adobe Photoshop Always use the selected program to open this kind of file Browse... If the program you want is not in the list or on your computer, you can look for the appropriate program on the Web. OK Cancel
	Click OK.	
	Click Close.	