

For those that find themselves in the same boat – unsuccessfully trying to install SQL SERVER 2022, the process that worked for me, which may be overkill in parts, is given below.

Check out the guide by [Cristian Gonzalez](#).

- 1 Back up the SQL Server databases and the registry
- 2 Uninstall, where installed, SQL Server 2022, SQL Server SetUp, Reporting Services, Analysis Services, Integration Services, Database Engine Services & Management Studio.
- 3 Delete the folders
 - (a) C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server
 - (b) C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server
 - (c) C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio xx
- 4 Use the Registry Editor (regedit / Win+r) to delete the following keys :-
 - (a) HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Microsoft SQL Server
 - (b) HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\Microsoft\Microsoft SQL Server
 - (c) HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\MSSQLServer
 - (d) HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\Microsoft\MSSQLServer
- 5 I did find trying to achieve this, and particularly the next step (6) very both tedious and time consuming. I found a program called RegScanner which I downloaded from the Internet and it made the task so much easier. Once the program is running, be sure to run it as an Administrator if you wish to delete keys from within the app - see the Help menu item.
- 6 Again, use the Registry Editor to remove services related registry entries. To do this, find the location
 - (a) HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\ServicesLook for entries that relate to SQL Server services and delete the appropriate folders. Typically, this will be SQLWriter & SQLBrowser. Also, look for entries that relate to any of the deleted folders (Step 3) and remove.

The joy of RegScanner is that it finds all the keys for your search criteria more quickly than regedit and, furthermore, you can then easily cherry pick the items and delete them.
- 7 Reboot & then install SQL Server 2022
- 8 I did have 1 further installation problem (having done all of the above) and resolved that by doing the following during the SQL SERVER 2022 install.

The Service Account Name used by SQL Server Agent & SQL Server Database Engine on the Server Configuration page default to NT SERVICE\SQLSERVERAGENT & NT SERVICE\MSSQLSERVER respectively. When those were both changed to NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM everything installed perfectly.

Hope this helps others out there.