

Psychic debugging: Why does `ExitProcess(1)` produce an exit code of zero?

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Here's a question that came from a customer. By now, you should already have the necessary psychic powers to answer it.

Our program calls `ExitProcess(1)` to indicate that it exited unsuccessfully. The process that launched our program waits for the program to exit and then calls `GetExitCodeProcess` to retrieve the exit code. The function succeeds, but the exit code is zero! How can this be?

Hint: Read about [how processes terminate on Windows XP](#).

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