

# Re: replacing Vista with XP/w2k and possible problems with drivers

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Vista/microsoft.public.windows.vista.general/2009-07/msg00234.html>

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- *From:* "aa" <a@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Thu, 2 Jul 2009 12:20:19 +0400
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Thanks, Bruce, for detailed feedback.

HP Support exactly say two things:

1. Removing VISTA or even installing XP for dual boot will invalidate the warranty. I do not worry about this for with VISTA I am not using the machine anyway. If some hardware breaks down, I will remove XP and reinstall VISTA. Or just swap the HD for I awyas store my date on a separate drive or at least on a separate partition.

2. They do not guarantee I will find ALL the drivers for XP. The answer is quite ecasive, but I could not get from them anything else

First and foremost, if the specific computer model in question was designed specifically for Vista, there may well be no WinXP-specific device drivers available to make the computer's diverse components work properly

That was exactly the source of my worry. They now have a stick on all the computers Recommended for VISTA or something like that. If MS do not sell them a licence for XP, manufacturers have little point in developing XP drivers

Also do you know if it is legally OK to buy, say, on ebay that OEM XP ? Will MS give support to such an installation?

"Bruce Chambers" <bchambers@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:#sUstDr#JHA.1376@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:#sUstDr#JHA.1376@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

aa wrote:

On a year old HP Pavilion/Vista I would like to remove Vista, format the disk and install w2k or XP. But HP support refused all the support in

this

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respect saying they are not sure I will find all XP/w2k drivers for this machine.

\*Exactly\* what did HP Support say? That they definitely don't provide WinXP device drivers for that model computer, or that they just wouldn't help you find them?

Has anybody here had difficulties finding XP/w2k drivers for relatively new machines, and for HP Pavilion in particular?

There could be a couple possible adverse repercussions of which you should be aware. First and foremost, if the specific computer model in question was designed specifically for Vista, there may well be no WinXP-specific device drivers available to make the computer's diverse components work properly. Consult the computer's manufacturer about the availability of device drivers. Secondly, removing an OEM-installed operating system and replacing it with another will almost invariably void any and all support agreements and, in rare cases, possibly even the warranty. You would, at the very least, have to re-install Vista before getting any support from the manufacturer. Again, consult the computer's manufacturer for specifics. Thirdly, there will be the additional cost involved in purchasing a WinXP license for this new computer.

After backing up any data you wish to transfer to the new OS installation, simply boot from the WinXP installation CD. You'll be offered the opportunity to delete, create, and format partitions as part of the installation process. (You may need to re-arrange the order of boot devices in the PC's BIOS to boot from the CD.)

HOW TO Install Windows XP

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=KB:en-us:316941>

<http://www.michaelstevensstech.com/cleanxpinstall.html>

[http://www.webtree.ca/windowsxp/clean\\_install.htm](http://www.webtree.ca/windowsxp/clean_install.htm)

Then, assuming you were successful in obtaining WinXP-specific device drivers so that the computer can be made to work with WinXP, the backed up data can be restored and applications (those that are

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WinXP-compatible, that is) re-installed.

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Bruce Chambers

Help us help you:

<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx/kb/555375>

They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety. ~Benjamin Franklin

Many people would rather die than think; in fact, most do. ~Bertrand

Russell

The philosopher has never killed any priests, whereas the priest has killed a great many philosophers.

~ Denis Diderot