

# Re: Format Hard Disk

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- *From:* [rn5a@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:rn5a@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* 13 Dec 2006 13:52:50 -0800
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- If you remove the folder c:\Program Files then your existing Win2000 programs will no longer exist.
- If you remove c:\documents and settings then your user profiles cease to exist.

No problem....I don't intend to use the programs existing in Win2K. I just want Win2K to be a stand-by OS so that if I encounter any problems in WinXP in the future, I can search the Net & hopefully get a solution to resolve that problem using Win2K.

- Before re-installing Win2000 on C:, save the hidden files c:\ntldr, c:\ntdetect.com and c:\boot.ini in a safe place. Put them back again when Win2000 is up and running.

I have come across many articles advising the same i.e. save NTLDR & NTDETECT.COM in a safe place but strangely, I don't find either of the 2 files existing in the C:\ drive where Win2K is installed right now. I even searched the hidden & system folders & files but couldn't locate the 2 anywhere. I couldn't find boot.ini also anywhere but Win2K has always been working fine since last two years or so until about 3-4 days back.

So just tell me whether the procedure I have talked about in post #1 in this thread to delete all the files & folders (including the system files & folders) and not uninstall the apps in C:\ & then re-install Win2K in C:\ – will it be a safe approach? I don't want to lose my MP3s existing in C:\ when I re-install Win2K in C:\ at any cost.

- Buy a 100 GByte disk and install it as a slave drive. Use it for your .MP3 files. Disk are cheap!

I don't know in which part of the world do you stay & where you find 100GB hard disk cheap but atleast in the place where I stay, I don't

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find them cheap :-)

Thanks for your ideas....

Pegasus (MVP) wrote:

<rn5a@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:1165987092.682781.52340@xx](mailto:news:1165987092.682781.52340@xx)

I have Win2K Pro installed in the C:\ drive & WinXP Pro installed in the D:\ drive of my m/c. Due to some reasons, Win2K just refuses to start though while booting it shows the 'Windows is starting up...' screen along with the Win2K logo after which Win2K restarts itself. The C:\ & D:\ drives are partitioned with each having hard disk size of 9.32GB. All my MP3s exist in the D:\ drive. All these MP3s occupy almost 6GB of the hard disk space (out of the available 9.32GB in D:\). Since almost 70% of the hard disk space in D:\ is occupied by MP3s, I am running short of hard disk space in the D:\ drive to install other heavy-duty programs like .NET2.0, it's SDK, documentation, tutorials, SQL Server 2005 & it's SDK, documentation & tutorials, Visual Web Developer 2003 Express Edition etc.

Since I am not being allowed to log into Win2K, to free up space in D:\, I want to delete all the folders existing in C:\ (i.e. delete the folders 'Documents and Settings', 'Program Files', 'WINNT' & all the other system files & folders/sub-folders existing in C:\) without uninstalling the programs existing in Win2K & without removing the user profiles & then transfer all the MP3s existing in the D:\ drive to the C:\ drive (so that I can install the heavy-duty programs in D:) & then re-install Win2K in the C:\ drive.

What I would like to know is would such an approach be advisable?

The bottom line is I don't want WinXP Pro (which is installed in the D:\ drive) or the programs I have already installed in WinXP to get affected in any way if I take this approach. Neither should the MP3s in the C:\ drive be affected in any way.

Your plan contains some contradictions:

- If you remove the folder c:\Program Files then your existing Win2000 programs will no longer exist.
- If you remove c:\documents and settings then your user profiles cease to exist.

Your current problems are caused by an awkward mixture of OSs and data. You would be much better off doing this:

- Buy a 100 GByte disk and install it as a slave drive. Use it for your .MP3 files. Disk are cheap!
- Try to repair Win2000 on drive C:. If you cannot repair it, re-install

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it, then re-install all its applications.

– Before re-installing Win2000 on C:, save the hidden files c:\ntldr, c:\ntdetect.com and c:\boot.ini in a safe place. Put them back again when Win2000 is up and running. If you don't then you cannot boot into WinXP.