

## Re: Administrator Password

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility/2004-03/0371.html>

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**From:** Michael Solomon \(\MS-MVP Windows Shell/User\) (*user\_at\_#notme.com*)

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Have you tried leaving the password blank and pressing enter? NOTE: there is a hidden administrator account called "Administrator." This account is created during setup and is meant as a master account, a place you can go to get the system started again if all the accounts you create are damaged and won't log on.

Most people do not set a password for this account and if you didn't install XP yourself rather it was installed at the factory, they likely didn't create one either in which case, if asks you to choose an account, choose "Administrator" and press enter.

That said, if you are trying to do a repair install, that is not done from the Recovery Console and does not usually require a password. Do a repair install as follows:

Assuming your system is set to boot from the CD-ROM drive and you have an actual XP CD as opposed to a recovery CD, boot with the XP CD in the drive and perform a repair install as outlined below. If the system isn't set to boot from the CD or you are not sure, you need to enter the system's BIOS. When you boot the system, the first screen usually has instructions that if you wish to enter set press a specific key, when you see that, do so. Then you will have to navigate to the boot sequence, if the CD-ROM drive is not first line, set it first in the boot sequence. Save your settings and exit with the XP CD in the drive. The system will reboot.

NOTE, while a repair install should leave your data files intact, if something goes wrong during the repair install, you may be forced to start over and do a clean install of XP. If you don't have your data backed up, you would lose your data should that eventuality occur.

Boot from the CD. If your system is set to be able to boot from the CD, it should detect the disk and give a brief message, during the boot up, if you wish to boot from the CD press any key.

Once you have pressed a key, setup should begin. You will see a reference asking if you need to load special drivers and another notice that if you wish to begin the ASR (Automatic Recovery Console) depress F2. Just let

setup run past all of that. It will continue to load files and drivers.

Then it will bring you to a screen. Eventually, you will come to a screen with the option to (1) setup Windows or (2) Repair Windows Installation using the Recovery console.

The first option, to setup Windows is the one you want and requires you to press enter. When asked, press F8 to accept the end user agreement. Setup will then search for previous versions of Windows. Upon finding your version, it will ask if you wish to Repair your current installation or install fresh. Press R, that will run a repair installation. From there on, follow the screens.

If you only have a recovery CD, your options are quite limited. You can either purchase a retail version of XP will allow you to perform the above among other tools and options it has or you can run your system recovery routine with the Recovery CD which will likely wipe your drive, deleting all files but will restore your setup to factory fresh condition.

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Michael Solomon MS-MVP

Windows Shell/User

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DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>

<anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message  
news:c60301c4091f\$9ece4190\$a501280a@phx.gbl...

> When trying to use Windows XP Home for recovery/refresh I  
> have to enter an "administrator password". I do not  
> establish an administartor account that I'm aware of and  
> none of my passwords work. Any way around this to  
> recovery/refresh mode?

>

> Thanks