

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

## Re: No boot and no administrator password!

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility/2004-04/0278.html>

---

**From:** Paul (*anonymous\_at\_discussions.microsoft.com*)

**Date:** 04/06/04

Date: Tue, 6 Apr 2004 09:01:15 -0700

Problem solved!

Linux-based bootable floppy to the rescue! VERY easy to use. I was able to change my recovery console from ENFORCED to SKIPPED. Makes me wonder how some commercial vendors charge up to \$200 to change a password. Here is the link if anyone following this thread needs it:

<http://home.eunet.no/~pnordahl/ntpasswd/bootdisk.html>

Note: be VERY careful and follow all instructions before using this utility as any misstep can/will result in a pooched OS!

\*\*disclaimer -- ONLY use this utility to access your recovery console if you've been locked out due to a 'hidden' administrator password that you did not create! You should NOT use this utility to change an otherwise valid desktop administrator password.

Thanks again Michael for all your help!

>-----Original Message-----  
>The next step would be the tools from the Internet.  
There's at least one I  
>believe that can make a bootable floppy that can read  
NTFS, sorry, I don't  
>have a link.  
>  
>After that, you could check the back pages of computer  
magazines for ads for  
>hard drive recovery as there are places that do this  
sort of thing but they  
>aren't cheap.  
>  
>--  
>Michael Solomon MS-MVP

Re: No boot and no administrator password!

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>Windows Shell/User  
>Backup is a PC User's Best Friend  
>DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>  
>  
>"Paul" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in  
message  
>news:188b301c41b6d50d5891b0\$a301280a@phx.gbl...  
>> Well crapola..  
>>  
>> I didn't make the rescue disks, and although I have PM  
>> version 7.01 installed on my inaccessible machine I  
can't  
>> install the CD on another system because I can't find  
the  
>> CD jacket with the license # on it.  
>>  
>> I see some Linux based tools available on the internet  
to  
>> accomplish what I need to do as a last resort. (don't  
know  
>> how to image the downloaded files onto a bootable  
floppy  
>> though >( )  
>>  
>> Any other ways to skin this cat Michael?  
>>  
>> Thanks for all your help!  
>>  
>>>-----Original Message-----  
>>>It does have it's own boot disks if you remembered to  
>> make them. Not sure  
>>>if the CD is bootable. If you have access to another  
>> setup, you can make  
>>>the boot disks or you may find some additional  
>> instructions on the CD about  
>>>what you might do in this situation.  
>>>  
>>>--  
>>>Michael Solomon MS-MVP  
>>>Windows Shell/User  
>>>Backup is a PC User's Best Friend  
>>>DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>  
>>>  
>>>"Paul" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in  
>> message  
>>>news:17d2001c419d1\$799dcae0\$a501280a@phx.gbl...  
>>>> Huzzaah!  
>>>>  
>>>> I have Partition Magic 7.0 and it is XP compatible.  
I  
>>>> don't recall though that it was a bootable CD since

Re: No boot and no administrator password!

it

>>>> *worked within Windows.*

>>>>

>>>> *I'll give it a shot and let you know.*

>>>>

>>>> *THANKS Michael!*

>>>>

>>>>>-----*Original Message*-----

>>>>>*OK, still another way to skin this cat. You'll need*

*a*

>>>> *new partition, if you*

>>>>>*don't have a spare partition you can mark active,*

*you'll*

>>>> *need third party*

>>>>>*software such as Partition Magic, [www.powerquest.com](http://www.powerquest.com),*

>>>> *check website for XP*

>>>>>*compatible versions. Install XP to that partition*

*boot*

>>>> *to it, then copy*

>>>>>*your data from the old setup to the new setup.*

>>>>>

>>>>>*You will likely be met with a cannot access notice*

*with*

>>>> *regard to the files,*

>>>>>*if that happens, you need to take ownership as*

*follows:*

>>>>>

>>>>>*Note, file ownership and permissions supersede*

>>>> *administrator rights. How*

>>>>>*you resolve it depends upon which version of XP you*

*are*

>>>> *running.*

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>>*XP-Home*

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>>*Unfortunately, XP Home using NTFS is essentially hard*

>>>> *wired for "Simple File*

>>>>>*Sharing" at system level.*

>>>>>

>>>>>*However, you can set XP Home permissions in Safe*

*Mode.*

>>>> *Reboot, and start*

>>>>>*hitting F8, a menu should eventually appear and one*

*of*

>> *the*

>>>>>*options is Safe Mode. Select it. Note, it will ask*

*for*

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>> *the administrator's*  
>>>>> *password. This is not your administrator account,*  
>> *rather*  
>>>> *it is the*  
>>>>> *machine's administrator account for which users are*  
>> *asked*  
>>>> *to create a*  
>>>>> *password during setup.*  
>>>>>  
>>>>> *If you created no such password, when requested,*  
leave  
>>>> *blank and press*  
>>>>> *enter.*  
>>>>>  
>>>>> *Open Explorer, go to Tools and Folder Options, on the*  
>>>> *view tab, scroll to*  
>>>>> *the bottom of the list, if it shows "Enable Simple*  
File  
>>>> *Sharing" deselect it*  
>>>>> *and click apply and ok. If it shows nothing or won't*  
>> *let*  
>>>> *you make a change,*  
>>>>> *move on to the next step.*  
>>>>>  
>>>>> *Navigate to the files, right click, select*  
properties,  
>> *go*  
>>>> *to the Security*  
>>>>> *tab, click advanced, go to the Owner tab and select*  
the  
>>>> *user that was logged*  
>>>>> *on when you were refused permission to access the*  
files.  
>>>> *Click apply and*  
>>>>> *ok. Close the properties box, reopen it, click add*  
and  
>>>> *type in the name of*  
>>>>> *the user you just enabled. If you wish to set*  
ownership  
>>>> *for everything in*  
>>>>> *the folder, at the bottom of the Owner tab is the*  
>>>> *following selection:*  
>>>>> *"Replace owner on subcontainers and objects," select*  
it  
>>>> *as well.*  
>>>>>  
>>>>> *Once complete, you should be able to do what you wish*  
>>>> *with these files when*  
>>>>> *you log back on as that user.*  
>>>>>  
>>>>>

Re: No boot and no administrator password!

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>>>  
>>>>>XP-Pro  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>If you have XP Pro, temporarily change the limited  
>>>>> account to  
>>>>>administrative. First, go to Windows Explorer, go to  
>>>>> Tools, select Folder  
>>>>>Options, go to the View tab and be sure "Use Simple  
File  
>>>>> Sharing" is not  
>>>>>selected. If it is, deselect it and click apply and  
ok.  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>If you wish everything in a specific folder to be  
>>>>> accessible to a user,  
>>>>>right click the folder, select properties, go to the  
>>>>> Security tab, click  
>>>>>Advanced, go to the Owner tab,  
>>>>>select the user you wish to have access, at the  
bottom  
>> of  
>>>>> the box, you  
>>>>>should see a check box for "Replace owner on  
>>>>> subcontainers and objects,"  
>>>>>place a check in the box and click apply and ok.  
>>>>>  
>>>>>The user should now be able to perform necessary  
>>>>> functions on files in the  
>>>>>folder even as a limited account. If not, make it an  
>>>>> admin account again,  
>>>>>right click the folder, select Properties, go to the  
>>>>> Security tab and be  
>>>>>sure the user is listed in the user list. If not,  
click  
>>>>> add and type the  
>>>>>user name in the appropriate box, be sure the user  
has  
>>>>> all the necessary  
>>>>>permissions checked in the permission list below the  
>> user  
>>>>> list, click apply  
>>>>>and ok.  
>>>>>  
>>>>>That should do it and allow whatever access you  
desire  
>>>>> for that folder even  
>>>>>in a limited account.

Re: No boot and no administrator password!

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>--  
>>>>>Michael Solomon MS-MVP  
>>>>>Windows Shell/User  
>>>>>Backup is a PC User's Best Friend  
>>>>>DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>><lawnetpfm@aol.com> wrote in message  
>>>>>news:1351801c419bf\$4d328160\$a001280a@phx.gbl...  
>>>>>> Hidden, secret... it's all the same to me!  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> Yeah I've tried all of the options at the safe mode  
>>>>> page,  
>>>>>> all giving me the same message: <windows  
>>>>>> root>\system32.hal.dll is corrupted or missing.  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> I cannot do a clean install and lose all my data  
>> knowing  
>>>>>> that there is an 'unconventional' way past this  
>> problem.  
>>>>>> Guess I'll have to do some googling and find a  
>>>> workaround.  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> If you have any other ideas, feel free please to  
share  
>>>>>> them with me either via this thread, or email shown  
>>>>> above.  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> Thanks again Michael...  
>>>>>>>-----Original Message-----  
>>>>>>>LOL, it's not a secret...it's a hidden account  
that is  
>>>>>>> called administrator.  
>>>>>>>>Most people don't make a password for it when they  
>>>>>>>> install and if XP was  
>>>>>>>> installed at the factory they don't make a password  
>> for  
>>>>>>> it so the key would  
>>>>>>>>be, to select Administrator, leave the password  
blank  
>>>>> and  
>>>>>>> press enter.  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>Well, ok, that didn't work. Two possible options  
>> here.  
>>>>>>> First, let's try  
>>>>>>>>"Last Known Good Configuration." Boot the system,  
>> start  
>>>>>>>> tapping F8, when

Re: No boot and no administrator password!

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>>>>the menu appears, select "Last Known Good  
>>>> Configuration,"  
>>>>> press enter and  
>>>>>>see if that resolves it. If that fails, do the  
same  
>> as  
>>>>>> above but choose  
>>>>>>Safe Mode, if you can get in, you'll be able to  
>> change  
>>>>>> the boot.ini file.  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>If the above fails, I can't see any way out of this  
>> but  
>>>>>>> to wipe the drive  
>>>>>>>>and start over. Since you have an OEM install but  
an  
>> XP  
>>>>>>> upgrade CD, you'll  
>>>>>>>>need qualifying media at some point during the  
>>>>>>>> installation in order to do a  
>>>>>>>>clean install with the upgrade CD.  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>Booting from a floppy will accomplish nothing as  
the  
>>>>>>>> floppy is fat and your  
>>>>>>>>drive is likely formatted NTFS.  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>--  
>>>>>>>>Michael Solomon MS-MVP  
>>>>>>>>Windows Shell/User  
>>>>>>>>Backup is a PC User's Best Friend  
>>>>>>>>DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>"Paul" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote  
in  
>>>>>>>> message  
>>>>>>>>news:181fe01c419ba5e54a74d0\$a101280a@phx.gbl...  
>>>>>>>> Yes, I have tried that to no avail. I've also  
>> tried a  
>>>>>>>> million passwords that I can ever remember, but  
also  
>>>> to  
>>>>>>>> no  
>>>>>>>>> avail.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> My desktop is NOT password protected,(computer  
boots  
>>>>>>>>> straight to desktop) so I'm baffled as to why it  
>> asks  
>>>>>>>>> for  
>>>>>>>>>> an admin password, when one is not in place.

Re: No boot and no administrator password!

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> *Is this a bug? I've read about 'secret'*  
>> *administrator*  
>>>>>>> *accounts being created, but not sure if this*  
*applies*  
>>>>>>> *here.*  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> *It's really frustrating knowing that I can't boot*  
>>>>>>> *because*  
>>>>>>> *of a simple invalid value (0 instead of a 1) I*  
*put*  
>> *in*  
>>>>>>> *the*  
>>>>>>> *boot.ini file.*  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> *Is it possible to copy a simple boot.ini command*  
>> *onto*  
>>>> *a*  
>>>>>>> *floppy and boot from that?*  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> *Thanks again Michael for your generous support!*  
>>>>>>>>-----*Original Message*-----  
>>>>>>>> *At the Recovery Console, have you tried just*  
*leaving*  
>>>> *the*  
>>>>>>>> *password blank and*  
>>>>>>>> *pressing enter?*  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>--  
>>>>>>>> *Michael Solomon MS-MVP*  
>>>>>>>> *Windows Shell/User*  
>>>>>>>> *Backup is a PC User's Best Friend*  
>>>>>>>> *DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>*  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>> *"Paul" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com>*  
*wrote*  
>> *in*  
>>>>>>>> *message*  
>>>>>>>>> *news:181b201c419af\$dce123d0\$a101280a@phx.gbl...*  
>>>>>>>>> *Thanks Michael for the prompt reply!*  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> *One problem here. I'm using an XP Home*  
*upgrade CD*  
>>>>> *to*  
>>>>>>>>>> *repair an OEM system, thus it finds no previous*  
>>>>>>>>>> *installations to repair. Following your*  
>>>> *directions, I*  
>>>>>>>>>> *arrive at a screen where my only options are to*  
>>>> *setup,*  
>>>>>>>>>> *partition, or delete partition. I was able to*  
>>>>>> *navigate*

Re: No boot and no administrator password!

microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>>>>> to  
>>>>>>>> a screen where I was able to point the console  
to  
>> a  
>>>>>>>> specific folder to install windows to, instead  
of  
>>>>>>>> C:\windows.  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>> So now I'm back to a useless recovery console  
due  
>>>> to a  
>>>>>>>> phantom administrator password that doesn't  
>>>> exist#@#@.  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>> Any other suggestions would be highly  
appreciated!  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>> Thanks  
>>>>>>>>>-----Original Message-----  
>>>>>>>>>Try a Repair Install instead of Recovery  
Console.  
>>>>> NOTE:  
>>>>>>>>> in the instructions  
>>>>>>>>>>below, when you come to the screen that asks  
you  
>> to  
>>>>>>>>> choose Setup Windows or  
>>>>>>>>>>"R" for Repair, you want Setup Windows, this  
will  
>>>>>>>>> ultimately take you to the  
>>>>>>>>>>repair option.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>>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

Re: No boot and no administrator password!



microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>>>>>>> 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.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> --  
>>>>>>>>> Michael Solomon MS-MVP  
>>>>>>>>> Windows Shell/User  
>>>>>>>>> Backup is a PC User's Best Friend  
>>>>>>>>> DTS-L.Org: <http://www.dts-l.org/>  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> "Paul FM" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com>  
>>>> wrote  
>>>>> in  
>>>>>>>>> message  
>>>>>>>>> news:17b1301c41921\$647438d0\$a401280a@phx.gbl...

Re: No boot and no administrator password!



microsoft.public.windowsxp.accessibility: Re: No boot and no administrator password!

>>>.
>>>
>
>
>.
>