

Re: Windows XP Home stalls during boot

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From: Michael Solomon \((MS-MVP)\) (*user_at_#notme.com*)

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Those are Windows files. My guess is, you have SP1 or SP2 installed and your version of XP on the CD doesn't have either. Usually, it should just tell you the version of XP installed on your computer is newer than the version you are trying to install and stop setup. If you do have SP1 or SP2 installed on your system and your CD is XP without either of those, given that you cannot boot the system to the desktop or Safe Mode, the only choice left to you would seem to start over with a clean install which unfortunately will wipe the drive of all data. I hope you're backed up.

The procedure for that is as follows:

Assuming your system is set to boot from the CD-ROM drive, boot with the XP CD in the drive. If it isn't 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 setup 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.

A few screens into the boot process, if you see the message on the boot screen to "Press any key in order to boot from the CD," do so.

After loading drivers and files, you should be taken to a screen with the following:

To Setup Windows XP now, press ENTER.

To Repair a Windows XP Installation using Recovery Console press R.

To Quit setup without installing Windows XP, press F3.

In your case, press ENTER.

Agree to the License agreement by pressing F8.

You will then be taken to a screen with two options.

To repair the selected Windows XP installation press R.

To continue installing a fresh copy of Windows XP without repairing,

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press ESC.

This will bring you to a partition map where you can delete, create and format partitions.

Select the drive you wish to format, delete the partition, then create a new partition, format as desired and continue with XP installation.

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Michael Solomon MS-MVP
Windows Shell/User
Backup is a PC User's Best Friend
DTS-L.Org: http://www.dts-l.org/
"n_jaxsun" <njaxsun@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
news:C815C94E-6060-4C03-82EC-343FFFFF475DB@microsoft.com...
> Thanks, I've got that and have worked through the process you've
> described.
> Now, as I am running the repair and windows is loading devices, I received
> the message that Windows cannot open rundll32.exe and regsvr32.exe. I
> know
> they are both in the system 32 files. It wants me to select which program
> created it. I feel I'm over my head here. What next?
>
> "Michael Solomon (MS-MVP)" wrote:
>
>> The key should be on a sticker on your computer case. Look at the front,
>> sides, top and back, there should be a sticker with that information.
>>
>> --
>> Michael Solomon MS-MVP
>> Windows Shell/User
>> Backup is a PC User's Best Friend
>> DTS-L.Org: http://www.dts-l.org/
>>
>> "n_jaxsun" <njaxsun@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
>> news:5F8D4DB7-B0CA-4565-83D3-5282EA65CB2D@microsoft.com...
>> > Thank you for the assistance. I have followed the steps as outlined
>> > and
>> > everything was coming along nicely. I reached the window (second boot)
>> > where
>> > the product key is required. I have all of the original CDs and
>> > documentation provided from HP with the laptop and do not find the
>> > product
>> > key anywhere. Do you know if I can recover the product key from HP or
>> > Microsoft or will I need to purchase a new CD?
>> >
>> > "Michael Solomon (MS-MVP)" wrote:
>> >
>> >> If the CD is a retail CD or comparable, it should never get to that
>> >> screen.
>> >> There's a point in the boot process, prior to reaching that screen
>> >> which
>> >> contains a message to hit any key if you wish to boot from the CD. I
>> >> make
>> >> note of that in my instructions. Doing so should start XP setup.
>> >>
>> >> If you are getting to that screen, something is wrong, either you
>> >> don't
>> >> have
>> >> a CD that is essentially the same as a retail version or you've missed
>> >> the
>> >> screen that tells you to press any key in order to boot from the CD.
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>> >> --
>> >> Michael Solomon MS-MVP
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>> >> Backup is a PC User's Best Friend
>> >> DTS-L.Org: http://www.dts-l.org/
>> >>
>> >> "n_jaxsun" <njaxsun@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
>> >> news:FB59C4B6-4EE5-4DBC-A2DA-38231B77B98D@microsoft.com...
>> >> > Thank you. I've read these instruction on several different posts
>> >> > similar
>> >> > to
>> >> > mine. However, although my system is set to boot from the CD, it
>> >> > begins
>> >> > the
>> >> > boot sequence and then stalls at the same screen. I am never given
>> >> > an
>> >> > option
>> >> > to do anything.
>> >> >
>> >> > "Michael Solomon (MS-MVP)" wrote:
>> >> >
>> >> >> Please try a repair install as follows:
>> >> >>
>> >> >> 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.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> 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.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> When the system boots, a few screens into the process you may see a
>> >> >> message
>> >> >> instructing you
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>> >> >> to hit any key in order to boot from the CD along with a countdown.
>> >> >> When
>> >> >> you see this be sure to
>> >> >> hit a key on the keyboard, if you miss this instruction and the
>> >> >> system
>> >> >> fails
>> >> >> to boot from the CD, it's too
>> >> >> late, you'll need to reboot and try again.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> 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 selection you want at this
>> >> >> screen
>> >> >> is
>> >> >> "Setup Windows,"
>> >> >> NOT "Repair Windows Installation.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> 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.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> Note, in some cases, you won't receive the repair option, only an
>> >> >> option
>> >> >> to
>> >> >> reinstall. We have discovered that sometimes this is caused by
>> >> >> damaged
>> >> >> boot.ini file that can be repaired as follows and also note, in the
>> >> >> instructions, "K" refers to the CD drive in which you have placed
>> >> >> the
>> >> >> XP
>> >> >> CD,
>> >> >> replace that drive letter with the appropriate letter on your
>> >> >> system,
>> >> >> "K"
>> >> >> is
>> >> >> simply an example.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> Reboot, this time taking the immediate R option (this is the
```

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>> >> >> section I
>> >> >> told
>> >> >> you to skip above. In this case, you will need to get to the
>> >> >> Recovery
>> >> >> Console to perform the function below), and if the CD letter is say
>> >> >> K:
>> >> >> give
>> >> >> these commands
>> >> >>
>> >> >> COPY K:\i386\ntldr C:
>> >> >> COPY K:\i386\ntdetect.com C:
>> >> >> (two other files needed - just in case)
>> >> >> ATTRIB -H -R -S C:\boot.ini
>> >> >> DEL C:\boot.ini
>> >> >> BootCfg /Rebuild
>> >> >>
>> >> >> Once you've completed this function, reboot and see if you can
>> >> >> access
>> >> >> XP
>> >> >> as
>> >> >> sometimes, the problem is the damaged boot.ini. If you still
>> >> >> cannot
>> >> >> access
>> >> >> XP, then reboot and re-run the repair install instructions at the
>> >> >> beginning
>> >> >> of this message.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> If you only have a recovery CD, your options are quite limited.
>> >> >> You
>> >> >> can
>> >> >> either purchase a retail version of XP which 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.
>> >> >>
>> >> >>
>> >> >> --
>> >> >> Michael Solomon MS-MVP
>> >> >> Windows Shell/User
>> >> >> Backup is a PC User's Best Friend
>> >> >> DTS-L.Org: http://www.dts-l.org/
>> >> >>
>> >> >> "n_jaxsun" <n_jaxsun@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
>> >> >> news:3BD69D75-BD04-4C43-9402-5CEBA0EF27D0@microsoft.com...
>> >> >> >I am using hp pavilion with windows xp home edition. When
>> >> >> >booting, I
>> >> >> >reach
>> >> >> > the blue Windows logo screen, never reaching the log in screen.
>> >> >> > I've
>> >> >> > tried
>> >> >> > starting from safe mode, last known good configuration, and from
>> >> >> > the
>> >> >> > windows
>> >> >> > xp cd. Get the same result every time. No error messages -
>> >> >> > nothing.
>> >> >> > Suggestions?????? Please?
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