

Re: Install XP from one CD but activate with license key from anot

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- *From:* najevi <najevi AT hotmail DOT com>
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My friend was given a copy of a Windows XP Home Edition (with SP2) install disk and told to use the CD-Key as printed on the Genuine Windows sticker affixed to the bottom of his Toshiba laptop.

That method certainly worked and the product activation went without a hitch.

We abandoned the XP Pro installation.

Many thanks!

"Sharon F" wrote:

On Sun, 10 Jun 2007 19:25:00 -0700, najevi wrote:

Can I install from one Win-XP-Professional-Upgrade-Academic CD and then later activate using the license key from a newly purchased Win-XP-Professional-Upgrade-Academic product?

I don't know if it's possible to purchase just a license for the Academic version or not. Regardless, we usually recommend buying the package (CD and license key) since there is really no great savings on buying an extra XP key only with the other versions.

Also am not familiar with the XP Academic license terms. As long as there isn't anything "weird" about them, you should be fine. You can check the EULA on the desktop PC to be sure: Start> Run> winver will bring up a version screen that *should* have a link to the EULA. If not, just search for the relevant txt file.

As far as installing from one CD and using a different number – as long as the "types" match you can do this.

Example of a match: Installed from media with an OEM version of XP home

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/validated with any OEM home license key.

Post XP SP2, the first screen for activation has a place where you can change the license key from the one you used to do the install to the one that you want to use to validate.

PS: You plan on using an upgrade version. Setup for the upgrade package will expect to see proof of a Windows version that qualifies for the upgrade right. If no Windows is installed, you will be prompted to insert the CD for Windows—a-qualifying-version. A check will be made, and if "passed" the setup directions on the screen will have you re-insert the XP CD to continue installation.

Note that most customized OEM CDs do not work for that upgrade check. Many of these disks just have one great big file (or a small handful of files) that lay an image down instead of actually installing anything. Consequently, XP setup cannot "see" the Windows files that it looks for to validate.

The OEM CDs that will work – you can plainly see the Windows setup files (almost identical to what's on a retail CD) when examining the CD in Explorer.

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Sharon F
MS-MVP ~ Windows Shell/User