

Re: how can I get into DOS?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2004-07/1538.html>

From: R. C. White (RCWhite_at_msn.com)

Date: 07/09/04

Date: Fri, 9 Jul 2004 09:55:45 -0500

Hi, Howard.

Throw away that Win98 boot disk! Or at least hide it so that you won't ever be tempted to use it again. ;^}

The only thing you might need it for is to format a large (>32 GB) partition as FAT32, but you should never need to do that unless you intend to install Win9x/ME on this computer again.

Richard Urban's and Bruce Chambers' posts were right on.

>> > *I understand that I don't have to use a bootdisk from
>> (www.bootdisk.com) as I can now boot from the XP install disk, but how
>> can I get into DOS first, to perform the disk manipulation or is there
>> another method I haven't discovered?*

And you never need to "get into DOS" again. I started using personal computers before IBM built one and before MS-DOS existed, so I'm very comfy at the DOS prompt. Several times a day I use the "DOS" window in WinXP. Note that I enclose "DOS" in quotes to recognize that it is not true MS-DOS, but an emulator that runs in WinXP. It will not let me directly manipulate the hardware; WinXP's NT-based architecture won't allow that. But nearly all my old DOS commands still work (Xcopy, Type, More – and Dir and Del, of course) with their old familiar switches. FDISK will NOT work – but then, it didn't work from Win98, either, did it; we had to boot from a floppy to use FDISK.

If you ever DO need an MS-DOS boot floppy, WinXP will create one for you. Just right-click on Drive A: (with a blank or expendable diskette in the drive) and choose Format..., then Create an MS-DOS startup disk.

I like WinXP. I think you will, too. ;<)

RC

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microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics: Re: how can I get into DOS?

rc@corridor.net
Microsoft Windows MVP
"Howard Phillips" <nobody@spamcop.net> wrote in message
news:uLToc0bZEHA.524@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...
> Many thanks to for the replies, I shall endeavour to perform the operation
> when I return later tonight from fixing a Win 98 set-up.
>
> ps In the land of the blind - the man with one eye is king.
>
>
> "Bruce Chambers" <bchambers@nospamcableone.net> wrote in message
> news:OndJHWbZEHA.1152@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...
>> Greetings --
>>
>> Simply boot from the WinXP installation CD. You'll be offered the
>> opportunity to delete, create, and format partitions as part of the
>> installation process. (You may need to re-arrange the order of boot
>> devices in the PC's BIOS to boot from the CD.)
>>
>> HOW TO Install Windows XP
>> <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=KB;en-us;316941>
>>
>> <http://www.michaelstevenstech.com/cleanxpinstall.html>
>>
>> http://www.webtree.ca/windowsxp/clean_install.htm
>>
>>
>> Bruce Chambers
>> --
>> Help us help you:
>> <http://dts-l.org/goodpost.htm>
>> <http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>
>>
>> You can have peace. Or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on
>> having both at once. - RAH
>>
>>
>> "Howard Phillips" <nobody@spamcop.net> wrote in message
>> news:ekc5m9ZZEHA.1764@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...
>> > Can anyone please help?
>> >
>> > I wish to start over and re-format my 40 Gig hard drive and change
>> the partition size as I made it too small for Windows and my favourite
>> programs.
>> >
>> > Initially I only allowed myself 10 Gigs and I think I need to resize
>> it to about 16 Gigs, I might even go the whole hog and split it 50/50.
>> (I am so generous.)
>> >
>> > I don't want to buy additional software like Partition Magic for
>> what I consider to be a "use once only situation".(It is said that I
>> am so tight - I squeak when I walk)
>> >
>> > Now that I have a better understanding of how XP works and how the
>> programs that I wish to use interact with my hardware. I find I can
>> now make more use of the other drives, rather than clutter up the C:
>> drive with all my rubbish, besides which, data / files stored on my
>> other 80 Gig drive (split @ 25 / 25 / 25 Gigs) are now safer and less
>> liable to corruption. Another trade off is that the C: drive doesn't
>> get defragged so much and a 25 Gig drive takes next to no time to
>> defrag.
>> >

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>> > The procedure I am used to is that used by Win 95/98.  
>> >  
>> > In Win 98 this was fairly easy - I would insert the start-up disk  
>> and boot into DOS, run FDISK to remove and re-install the partition  
>> with the new size, then FORMAT both partitions and then install  
>> Windows, either from spare I had previously installed on a hard drive  
>> or CD disk, but XP I find, is a different animal.  
>> >  
>> > I understand that I don't have to use a bootdisk from  
>> (www.bootdisk.com) as I can now boot from the XP install disk, but how  
>> can I get into DOS first, to perform the disk manipulation or is there  
>> another method I haven't discovered?  
>> >  
>> > yours  
>> >  
>> > bodger1946 at hotmail
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