

# Re: Windows XP Boot up CD Rom

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.basics/2007-05/msg00492.html>

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- *From:* "Bob Harris" <[rharris270\[SPAM\]@hotmail.com](mailto:rharris270[SPAM]@hotmail.com)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 14 May 2007 17:33:13 -0500
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You could try a Bart's Bootable CD, but that does take a bit of work to make, and requires an original XP CD (but not necessarily the one that came with your PC) or equivalent files:

<http://www.nu2.nu/pebuilder/>

Other alternatives include booting the PC using a "live" LINUX CD. These will boot most PCs into some variation of LINUX, detect hardware, and will not write to the hard drive during the booting process. Thereafter you can copy files, even make changes to files on disk (within limits).

<http://www.frozentech.com/content/livecd.php>

I like KNOPPIX, because it is full-featured and has a windows-like interface. It also has a large user community for hints and help. It can read and write to NTFS partitions (used by XP), but its default is read only, until you change that.

<http://www.knopper.net/knoppix/index-en.html>

[http://www.knoppix.net/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.knoppix.net/wiki/Main_Page)

Note that KNOPPIX support USB hard drives, and that could be a good way to salvage personal files !

As for what you do once you boot the PC, that depends on exactly what you mean by "my computer crashed". If a minor software problem, maybe you can fix it once you gain access to the hard drive, if you can diagnose the problem correctly.

But, realize that some software problems are so large that the only credible solution path involves reinstalling XP. If you have a retail version, you can do a "repair" installation, which will not erase personal files or installed programs. If you have an OEM version, it may format first and install second, so you will lose everything on C:\. Of course, these reinstallation options assume that you can locate your XP CD.

If "crashed" involves a hardware problem, like a litteral disk crash, then booting the PC will not help. And, if the motherboard or power supply has

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problems, even a valid bootable CD may not boot the PC.

"Perry" <Perry@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:422E55B5-45D7-490E-89B1-4B222FEDE4EB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:422E55B5-45D7-490E-89B1-4B222FEDE4EB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hello My computer crashed and I can't find my XP CD Rom. I am trying to  
create  
a boot disk on line and realized my computer has no A: Drive how can I  
make a  
CD Rom setup disk from the microsoft online site. I looked around and  
can't  
figure it out. Can anyone help?