

## Re: Please help with XP Professional dual boot

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2004-12/0747.html>

---

**From:** Pegasus \ (MVP\ ) (I.can\_at\_fly.com)

**Date:** 12/01/04

Date: Wed, 1 Dec 2004 21:02:16 +1100

What happens when you select the WinXP option?

<linuxquestion@yahoo.com> wrote in message  
news:672ceaed.0411302032.505849f3@posting.google.com...

> Dear experts,  
>  
> I have succeed at this before, but I am really stumped  
> now, so I hope that someone will be able to tell me  
> the secret to fix this.  
>  
>  
> Computer:  
> Dell 4550. XP Professional.  
> Dual hard drives.  
> Primary, C: XP only 80 gigs.  
> Secondary. For Redhat 2.1 120 gigs  
> First partition is extended, then logical /boot  
>  
>  
> Now here is something important. When I bought this  
> machine, the primary/only hard drive had two  
> partitions in it. The first partition had no drive  
> letter assigned and was about 30 megs. It had hardware  
> diagnosis software, etc on it. The second partition was  
> the C: drive. 80 gigs. I was able to get this to  
> dual boot with grub, by overwriting the MBR. That  
> actually worked quite well.  
>  
> However, since then, the main hard drive self-destructed.  
> I had this replaced, and have since installed windows  
> on this drive. The interesting thing was that it  
> was not possible to create the 30 meg partition, and  
> still get Windows to ignore it. If I put the Windows  
> install on the large partition, it was labelled d:\  
>  
> NOW, I have tried a number of things to get Redhat to  
> install and dual boot. And still no luck.

>  
>  
> *MBR:*  
> *Using the previously successful MBR method:*  
> *– when booting, produced the word: GRUB in the top*  
> *left hand corner and the machine completely hung.*  
> *This happened for both Suse, and for Redhat installations.*  
>  
>  
> *Using the boot.ini method:*  
> *– used this command:*  
> *dd if=/dev/hdb5 of=/mnt/floppy/linux.bin bs=512 count=1*  
>  
> *copied the file linux.bin to c:\*  
>  
> *– when the machine boots, it gives me the choice of*  
> *XP, or Linux.*  
> *– when I choose linux, the machine then reboots from*  
> *scratch, and then gives me the same choice.*  
> *– an infinite loop.*  
> *– it should go into the grub menu.*  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> *Does anyone know how to get the dual boot to work?*  
> *What is the secret please?*  
>  
>  
>  
> *I'll include some files and output here:*  
>  
> *boot.ini:*  
>  
> *[boot loader]*  
> *timeout=30*  
> *default=multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS*  
> *[operating systems]*  
> *multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS="Microsoft Windows XP*  
> *Professional" /fastdetect*  
> *c:\linux.bin="Redhat Linux"*  
>  
>  
>  
> *df -k*  
>  
> *Filesystem 1k-blocks Used Available Use% Mounted on*  
> */dev/hdb6 5162796 135664 4764876 3% /*  
> */dev/hdb5 101089 13364 82506 14% /boot*  
> */dev/hdb8 5162796 32828 4867712 1% /home*  
> */dev/hdb9 5162796 164200 4736340 4% /opt*

```
> /dev/hdb13 10325748 32828 9768400 1% /oracle
> /dev/hdb14 11266328 32828 10661188 1% /oradata
> none 385024 0 385024 0% /dev/shm
> /dev/hdb12 5162796 33536 4867004 1% /tmp
> /dev/hdb10 10325748 1358136 8443092 14% /usr
> /dev/hdb11 5162796 60248 4840292 2% /var
> /dev/fd0 1423 10 1414 1% /mnt/floppy
>
>
>
> file Llisting of /boot
>
> total 9007
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 5824 Jun 24 2001 boot.b
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Nov 30 22:50 boot.txt
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 612 Jun 24 2001 chain.b
> drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 1024 Nov 30 17:30 grub
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 125307 Nov 30 17:03
> initrd-2.4.9-e.3.img
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 123149 Nov 30 17:02
> initrd-2.4.9-e.3smp.img
> lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 14 Nov 30 17:02 kernel.h ->
> kernel.h-2.4.9
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 405 Nov 30 17:02 kernel.h-2.4.9
> drwx----- 2 root root 12288 Nov 30 16:54 lost+found
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 23108 Jun 24 2001 message
> lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 21 Nov 30 17:03 module-info ->
> module-info-2.4.9-e.3
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 13599 May 3 2002
> module-info-2.4.9-e.3
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 13599 May 3 2002
> module-info-2.4.9-e.3smp
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 640 Jun 24 2001 os2_d.b
> lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 20 Nov 30 17:03 System.map ->
> System.map-2.4.9-e.3
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 444721 May 3 2002
> System.map-2.4.9-e.3
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 466091 May 3 2002
> System.map-2.4.9-e.3smp
> -rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 2767809 May 3 2002
> vmlinux-2.4.9-e.3
> -rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 3097034 May 3 2002
> vmlinux-2.4.9-e.3smp
> lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 17 Nov 30 17:03 vmlinuz ->
> vmlinuz-2.4.9-e.3
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 997736 May 3 2002
> vmlinuz-2.4.9-e.3
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 1073371 May 3 2002
> vmlinuz-2.4.9-e.3smp
>
>
```

```
>
> file listing of /boot/grub
>
> total 239
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 82 Nov 30 17:30 device.map
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 10848 Nov 30 17:30 e2fs_stage1_5
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 9744 Nov 30 17:30 fat_stage1_5
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 8864 Nov 30 17:30 ffs_stage1_5
> -rw----- 1 root root 738 Nov 30 17:30 grub.conf
> lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 11 Nov 30 17:30 menu.lst ->
> ./grub.conf
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 9248 Nov 30 17:30 minix_stage1_5
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 12512 Nov 30 17:30
> reiserfs_stage1_5
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 54044 Sep 5 2001 splash.xpm.gz
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 512 Nov 30 17:30 stage1
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 120000 Nov 30 17:30 stage2
> -rw-r--r-- 1 root root 8512 Nov 30 17:30
> vstafs_stage1_5
>
>
>
>
> grub.conf: (- although, it ever gets this far)
>
> # grub.conf generated by anaconda
> #
> # Note that you do not have to rerun grub after making changes to this
> # file
> # NOTICE: You have a /boot partition. This means that
> # all kernel and initrd paths are relative to /boot/, eg.
> # root (hd1,4)
> # kernel /vmlinuz-version ro root=/dev/hdb6
> # initrd /initrd-version.img
> #boot=/dev/hdb5
> default=0
> timeout=10
> splashimage=(hd1,4)/grub/splash.xpm.gz
> title Red Hat Linux Advanced Server (2.4.9-e.3smp)
> root (hd1,4)
> kernel /vmlinuz-2.4.9-e.3smp ro root=/dev/hdb6 hdd=ide-scsi
> initrd /initrd-2.4.9-e.3smp.img
> title Red Hat Linux Advanced Server-up (2.4.9-e.3)
> root (hd1,4)
> kernel /vmlinuz-2.4.9-e.3 ro root=/dev/hdb6 hdd=ide-scsi
> initrd /initrd-2.4.9-e.3.img
```