

# Re: Windows XP reusing the key

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**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2005-07/msg10527.html>

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- **From:** ByTor <ByTor@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - **Date:** Wed, 20 Jul 2005 13:04:26 -0400
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In article <e2i#TuUjFHA.3580@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, jeffrkele@xxxxxxxxxxx, Jeff Roe says...

- > I have a user that we had to reformat their drive and reload XP Pro, however
- > they don't have the original install CD but the XP Pro key is on the
- > underside of the laptop.
- >
- > When we try and use that key to re-install XP Pro from another CD we are
- > getting a message that it is an invalid key.
- >
- > I can understand if the message was "unable to activate" but why would it be
- > telling us that it is an invalid key?
- >
- > Thanks
- >
- > Jeff...
- >
- >
- >

If you are not using the original restore disk that came with the laptop machine and you are doing a full retail re-install fresh, the key will not work.....Different key assignments.....

Welcome to the world of proprietary OEM licensing.

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• **References:**

- ◆ **Windows XP reusing the key**  
◇ From: Jeff Roe

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Re: Windows XP reusing the key

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