

Re: Is it possible to install a newer version of XP?

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2005-12/msg11526.html>

- *From:* "Vanguard" <vanguard.code@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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"Calkinsj88" <Calkinsj88@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:39ADF6E6-3BD6-402B-997E-B3E5309BE3D1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

My laptop, just got a couple of days ago is a dell, It has windows XP Home and no service packs. It is currently having problems with the windows and needs to be reinstalled, The person who initially had the laptop lost the operating CD. I currently purchased the windows Home service pack 2, and I am wondering if I can use that to reinstall windows and still use the same licenses? A dell tech. told me it was absolutely correct to do so, but I wanted to get a microsoft tech to give me the ok that it will work. The service pack two cd I have came from Dell. Laptop is Inspiron 2600, trying to get it functional soon.

You won't get a Microsoft tech telling what is what. This is a community of your computer peers volunteering their time to answer questions or participate in discussions. Microsoft doesn't work here (well, some Microsoftees might visit but that is their personal choice).

Yes, you can upgrade from Home to Pro. However, if you ever need to reinstall, you won't have the Home version anymore from which to upgrade. You can do an in-place upgrade (Repair) of the same Pro version atop of itself but eventually you'll be screwed when having to do a reinstall and not having against which the upgrade will apply because there is no prior version to upgrade.

Did you ever check if there is a hidden partition containing the restore or recovery program or files to reinstall the operating system?

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If the original owner of the laptop never provided you with the media to install, recover, or restore the OS, and if it isn't in a hidden partition, then you never got a legal copy. What you got was a polluted hard drive. Did the laptop include the product key sticker? If so, you had better save a drive/partition image of the currently installed Home version so you have something to restore if you later have to, for example, have to replace the hard drive and then have nothing to apply the Pro upgrade version against (so you will have to restore the Home image and then upgrade). Of course, after installing the Pro upgrade, you could also save a disk/partition image after the upgrade and restore that instead (unless you want to start with a *clean* or fresh install).

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E-mail: Remove "NIX" and append "#VC811" to Subject.
