

# Re: reformat

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- *From:* "LVTravel" <none@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
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You need to consider, before you format the hard drive and return it to the basic OS, whether you want to "give" the XP copy you have to someone else. This point is moot if this is one of the "free" upgrades to XP (OEM) that Dell gave out near the time XP was due to be released by Microsoft when someone purchased a system with ME (mine was an 8100 model.) If you use the XP OS you need to give the new owner the ME and XP disks with both license keys.

If this was a retail purchase XP upgrade you may want to only use the ME for the format and hold onto the XP upgrade.

If you are going to use XP, follow Carey's instructions.

If you are using the ME disk then you need to boot with the ME disk and then exit out of the setup to the D: prompt or boot with an ME System recovery disk (not a simple floppy boot disk). What you do next depends on whether you converted the drive from FAT 32 to NTFS. If the drive is NTFS you need to (from the DOS prompt) FDISK the drive, delete the non-DOS partition, create a standard partition and then format with FAT 32 or if the drive is still FAT 32 simply format the drive with the FORMAT C: command. Proceed with the setup of ME from the CD.

"Carey Frisch [MVP]" <cnfrisch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:%23Qun7crbGHA.3956@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%23Qun7crbGHA.3956@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

The Windows XP CD is bootable and contains all the tools necessary to partition and format your drive. Follow this procedure and allow Windows XP to partition and format your drive:

NOTE: It would be best to physically disconnect all your peripheral hardware devices, except the monitor, mouse and keyboard, before installing XP.

NOTE: If you have an internal Zip Drive installed, physically disconnect the EIDE and power cable to it before proceeding, otherwise your

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main

hard drive may not be assigned the customary C: drive letter.  
After installing Windows XP, you may then reconnect it.

1. Open your BIOS and set your "CD Drive as the first bootable device".

====> Accessing Motherboard BIOS

====> [http://www.michaelstevestech.com/bios\\_manufacturer.htm](http://www.michaelstevestech.com/bios_manufacturer.htm)

2. Insert your Windows XP CD in the CD Drive and reboot your compute