

Re: reformat

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2006-05/msg01023.html>

- *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

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.michaelstevensstech.com/bios_manufacturer.htm

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

3. You'll see a message to boot to the CD...follow the instructions.

4. The setup menu will appear and you should elect to delete all the existing

Windows partitions, then create a new partition, then format the primary

partition (preferably NTFS) and proceed to install Windows XP.

5. Clean Install Windows XP

<http://michaelstevensstech.com/cleanxpinstall.html>

[Courtesy of Michael Stevens, MS-MVP]

6. ==> Immediately after installing Windows XP, make sure XP's Firewall is enabled:

==>

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/protect/windowsxpsp2/Default.mspix>

7. After Windows XP is installed, visit the Windows Update website and download the available "Critical Updates".

8. After installing the critical updates, be sure and visit the support website

of the manufacturer of the computer to download and install any available Windows XP compatible drivers, such as video adapter and audio drivers.

9. If you happen to run into any installation difficulties, use the following resources:

How to Troubleshoot Windows XP Problems During Installation

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;EN-US:310064>

Troubleshooting Windows XP Setup

http://www.kellys-korner-xp.com/xp_setup.htm

[Courtesy of MS-MVP Kelly Theriot]

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Carey Frisch

Microsoft MVP

Windows - Shell/User

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Microsoft Community Newsgroups
<news://msnews.microsoft.com/>

"Frederick Rogers" wrote:

| My older computer (Dell Dimension 4300) with XP home. It is an upgrade
| from
| ME. The only "Operating System" Disc I have is the ME disc. (I have the
| upgrade CDRom to XP) . I need to reformat the hard drive before I give
| it
| away but when I attempt to do it using the upgrade CD it tells me that
| the
| XP I have is newer than the CD. What is s the most efficient way to
| reformat
| the drive? Do I need to use the ME system disc to begin the process?
| Thanks