

# Reparing XP – I need your help

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Hi All,

My colleague left me his computer before he went for holiday. He asked me for sorting the computer out whilst he is there.

The computer was infected by lots of viruses/trojans. I managed to get rid of them. But the start and shutting of the system was still terrible slow. Nothing was able to help, any antispyware and even BootVis. Besides, the AVG antivirus program said that some files were changed, including shell32.dll.

So I decided to reinstall the system – Windows XP Pro SP1.

(I successfully repaired the system on my computer some time ago so I thought there shouldn't be any problem). I booted the computer with my Win XP Pro SP1 CD-ROM.

I typed "R" and then I pressed F8 (License Agreement).

It found the existing system:

C:\WINDOWS "Microsoft Windows XP Professional".

I typed "R" again and Windows started to copy files to the hard disk.

The copying took some time when I realised that it'd ask me for the product key. As my colleague didn't leave anything I didn't have his key.

I panicked and switched off the computer in the moment when it wrote

that it was about to initiate the configuration (after copying all files

I suppose)

The only thing I can do now is to boot with the Win XP Pro SP1 CD, press Enter and then the Recovery Console appears.

After choosing 1 (there is only 1 system), I can type the Administrator password (empty in fact), and then I get the prompt:

C:\WINDOWS >\_

I can type dir and see the Windows directory as well as I can type cd .. and see the main directory.

I suppose that I could use other (maybe all) commands however I can't be sure. Besides, I'm not familiar with Recovery Console.

Please tell me if it is possible to get back to the system before the unfortunate reinstall?

If so – how to do it.

If not, can I reinstall the system again using my Windows XP Pro SP1 CD

and my product key? In such case I'd like to repeat the reinstalling when my colleague is back

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using his CD and his product key.

Please help me.

Regards  
George

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