

Re: XO home edition versions?

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2006-09/msg08641.html>

- *From:* "Rock" <rock@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 25 Sep 2006 12:18:35 -0700
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"Dave C" wrote

I want to upgrade from Windows 98 first edition to XP Home Edition. However, I am a little confused over XP Home Edition versions. There is one for sale that is described as "Microsoft OEM Windows XP Home Edition inc. SP2b 1Pk (release 2)." I'm not sure if this is an UPGRADE of an existing XP Home Edition, or the "basic package." The product description notes it's an "upgrade" that "improves" the Windows XP operating system. Can I use this to replace my current 98 first edition?

OEM versions cannot do an upgrade. They can only do a clean install. There are other limitations as well. An OEM copy is tied to the first computer on which it's installed, and can't be moved to a new/different computer or sold/transferred unless the computer on which it's installed is sold with it.

Your best bet is to get a retail upgrade copy of XP Home. This is transferrable and can do an upgrade. Make sure you run the upgrade advisor, have all XP compatible drivers on CD for all the devices, and read these links for how to prep the system for the upgrade. Make sure you have a full and complete backup of important data in case something goes wrong. Make sure the backup is compatible with XP if you plan to use it to restore data in XP. The backup program in Win98 is not compatible with XP.

<http://www.aumha.org/win5/a/xpupgrad.htm>

http://www.winsupersite.com/showcase/windowsxp_sg_9xupgrade.asp

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Rock [MVP Windows Shell/User]