

# Re: New HDD Installation

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2006-12/msg11077.html>

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- *From:* John John <[audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 29 Dec 2006 20:07:56 -0400
- 

Do the fixboot and fixmbr commands in the Recovery Console. The warning that you get when you issue the fixmbr command is a standard warning message for that procedure. I can't guarantee anything, it is possible that fixing (re-writing) the MBR may make the disc inaccessible but that does not happen very often for standard MBR discs. It is a risk that you will have to take if you want to try to fix the problem, you still have your original disc as a backup, right? So if things go ka-boom! you have a backup to rely on. Incidentally I think that the reason that the disc doesn't want to boot is because it doesn't have a proper Master Boot Record, it wasn't done by the cloning operation. Run the commands and see what happens. At this point to attempt to repair the installation you have to accept the risk that things may not turn out as desired, but you have to take the risk and at least try.

If running the commands doesn't fix the problem then you can use the F10 option to install Windows and do an In-Place Upgrade, or what is more commonly called a "Repair Install". There is a link to a Microsoft article explaining this procedure in an earlier post, basically you just reinstall Windows over itself. Also, I'm still somewhat not certain that your partition is marked or flagged as active. The results of our earlier test in the Disk Management console were not conclusive, was the option to do so there but simply unavailable (greyed out) or did you not see any option to do so at all? If it was there but just greyed out then the partition is probably active and ok.

John

JohnH wrote:

I noticed that when I hit the F10 key to bring up the option to go into the repair console I am also given the option of loading XP. Would loading this generate the boot sector I need? I entered the repair console and pressed F6 to load the Sato/150 PCI Card from a disk then I went into the console and was going to run fixmbr but it said that if I proceeded I would erase the mbr on it and it may make it unaccessable. Is this a normal warning given when this command is run? I did not proceed and exited to get your opinion. I do not mean to be so cautious but I have been frustrated with this for a week and do not wish to do any damage and ask for your patience with me. Thanks

"John John" wrote:

Run both commands.

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John

JohnH wrote:

I did but there was no option to make it active/inactive. I want to try and run the Repair Console so do I need to run just fixboot or run both fixboot and fixmbr.

"John John" wrote:

It's probably already active but just to make sure right click on it and see if it can be made active in the context menu.

John

JohnH wrote:

I went into disk management and it had the following information about the drive:  
DRV2\_VOL1 (C:), Type= Basic, Status= Online, Partition Style= Master Boot Record(MBR). I did not see " active" but it stated Healthy System.

"John John" wrote:

Use the password for the "Built-In" Administrator account, not your account.

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When you log on to the Recovery Console you do so with the Built-In Administrator account. More often than not the password for the account was left blank, you can just try pressing <Enter>. If you have administrative privileges you can change the password for the Built-In Administrator account, that way you will be sure that you have the right password when you try to access the Recovery Console.

Also, while your installation is up and running use the Disk Management tool and make sure that you

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have a  
properly  
identified  
System  
Partition  
and that it is  
marked as  
"Active". If  
it is so  
identified  
and marked  
and still  
won't boot  
then do  
both  
commands  
(fixmbr &  
fixboot) as  
Ron  
suggested.

John

JohnH  
wrote:

I  
am  
set  
as  
the  
administrator  
but  
my  
password  
does  
not  
work  
with  
the  
Recovery  
Console.  
I  
switched  
to  
classic  
view

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and  
went  
to  
the  
Admin  
Tools  
to  
enable  
this,  
but  
there  
was  
not  
a  
Local  
Security  
Policy  
file  
or  
folder  
to  
click  
on  
as  
instructed  
by  
your  
knowledge  
base  
article.  
The  
following  
files  
or  
folders  
are  
available  
for  
selection:

1. Component Services
2. Data Sources (ODBC)
3. Event Viewer
4. Microsoft

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.Net  
Framework  
1.1  
Wizards  
5.  
Services  
6.  
Computer  
Management  
7.  
Desktop.ini  
8.  
Microsoft  
.Net  
Framework  
1.1  
Configuration  
9.  
Performance

I  
was  
able  
to  
boot  
the  
system  
with  
the  
XP  
cd  
but  
I  
believe  
that  
a  
boot  
sector  
must  
be  
missing  
as  
per  
Ron's  
advice.  
Any  
help  
with  
the  
admin  
password

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should  
get  
me  
access  
to  
fix  
it.  
Do  
I  
need  
to  
run  
both  
fixmbr  
and  
fixboot  
or  
just  
fixboot  
alone?  
"John  
John"  
wrote:

Do  
as  
Ron  
suggested,  
if  
it  
works  
it's  
the  
easiest  
way  
to  
get  
your  
installation  
up  
and  
running  
again.

Description  
of

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the  
Windows  
XP  
Recovery  
Console  
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/314058>

Note  
that  
you  
may  
have  
to  
press  
the  
F6  
key  
early  
in  
the  
setup  
process  
and  
have  
the  
Maxtor  
SATO/150  
PCI  
Card  
drivers  
on  
a  
diskette  
so  
that  
the  
setup  
program  
may  
load  
them  
and  
properly  
identify  
your  
disc.  
See  
here  
for  
information  
on

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storage  
controller  
drivers  
and  
Windows  
setup:  
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/314859>

Another  
quick  
check  
you  
can  
try  
is  
to  
see  
if  
you  
can  
boot  
the  
computer  
with  
a  
startup  
floppy  
diskette.  
See  
here  
for  
information  
on  
how  
to  
create  
such  
a  
disk:

<http://www.nu2.nu/bootdisk/ntboot/>

Note  
that  
with  
your  
hard  
disc  
on  
the  
Maxtor  
controller  
you

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will  
probably  
have  
to  
edit  
the  
rdisk  
value  
in  
the  
boot.ini  
file,  
you  
can  
use  
the  
MAP  
ARC  
command  
in  
the  
Recovery  
Console  
to  
get  
the  
proper  
ARC  
path  
and  
rdisk  
value  
for  
the  
boot.ini  
file.  
See  
here  
for  
more  
information:  
<http://www.microsoft.com/resources/documentation/v>

John

JohnH  
wrote:

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If  
I  
understand  
you  
correctly  
you  
want  
me  
to  
try  
and  
do  
a  
fresh  
install  
of  
the  
Windows  
XP  
w/SP2.  
It  
would  
take  
awhile  
but  
I  
am  
willing  
to  
start  
fresh  
if  
it  
gets  
the  
new  
HDD  
in  
and  
the  
small  
out.  
I  
just  
have  
a  
few  
questions  
before  
doing  
this.

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1.  
The  
Windows  
XP  
was  
an  
upgrade  
from  
the  
Windows  
Me  
that  
was  
installed  
in  
the  
system  
and  
all  
I  
got  
was  
a  
restore  
disk.  
Do  
I  
need  
the  
Windows  
Me  
disk?

2.  
Can  
just  
booting  
the  
the  
XP  
upgrade  
work  
without  
an  
OS  
in  
place?

3.  
Do

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you  
know  
if  
it  
is  
reccomended  
to  
disable  
the  
motherboard  
IDE  
or  
just  
leave  
on  
auto?

"Anna"  
wrote:

"JohnH"  
<JohnH@xxxxxxxx>  
wrote  
in  
message  
<news:50BF24E1-58>  
I  
bought  
a  
Western  
Digital  
160GB  
Caviar  
SE  
EIDE  
Drive.  
My  
motherboard  
is  
older  
so

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I  
was  
instructed  
to  
add  
a  
Maxtor  
SATO/150  
PCI  
Card  
so  
the  
full  
capacity  
of  
the  
HDD  
would  
be  
detected.  
I  
connected  
it  
and  
copied  
the  
old  
drive  
over  
to  
it.  
After  
completion  
I  
was  
instructed  
to  
disconnect  
the  
old  
and  
put  
the  
new  
in  
it's  
place.  
Upon  
restart  
it  
ask

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for  
a  
boot  
disk  
to  
be  
installed.  
When  
I  
bought  
the  
system  
it  
had  
Windows  
ME  
on  
it  
and  
I  
do  
not  
have  
a  
software  
disk  
but  
I  
was  
given  
a  
restore  
disk.  
I  
later  
upgraded  
to  
Windows  
XP  
w/  
SP2.  
Can  
I  
use  
the  
restore  
disk  
or  
the  
Windows  
XP

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upgrade  
disk  
as  
the  
boot  
disc.  
The  
support  
from  
Western  
Digital  
states  
that  
it  
may  
need  
to  
be  
done  
and  
some  
not,  
so  
I  
am  
confused  
as  
to  
how  
to  
make  
this  
as  
quick  
and  
painless  
as  
possible.  
I  
also  
would  
like  
to  
know  
if  
disabling  
the  
the  
primary  
IDE  
off

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the  
motherboard  
in  
the  
CMOS  
would  
help  
too.

"Ron  
Sommer"  
wrote:

The  
new  
disk  
needs  
a  
boot  
sector.  
If  
you  
just  
copied  
the  
partition,  
you  
didn't  
get  
the  
boot  
sector.

You  
can  
run  
fixmbr  
and  
fixboot.  
--

Ronald  
Sommer

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"JohnH"  
<JohnH@xxxxxxxx>  
wrote  
in  
message  
[news:F3F46E78-94](mailto:news:F3F46E78-94)  
I  
used  
the  
HDD  
Installation  
Tool  
software  
to  
copy  
the  
partition  
from  
the  
old  
drive  
to  
the  
new,  
I  
guess  
that  
would  
be  
a  
clone.  
The  
transfer  
seemed  
uneventful  
and  
removal  
of  
the  
old  
drive  
was  
done.  
It  
seems  
to  
be  
asking

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for  
a  
boot  
disk  
upon  
reboot  
once  
the  
old  
drive  
is  
removed.  
Can  
the  
Windows  
ME  
restore  
disk  
be  
used?  
Can  
the  
Windows  
XP  
w/SP2  
upgrade  
be  
used?  
Anymore  
advice  
would  
be  
greatly  
appreciated.

"Rich  
Barry"  
wrote:  
John,  
you  
may  
have  
a  
setting  
in  
the  
Bios  
for



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Once  
it  
is  
connected  
it  
requests  
a  
boot  
disk  
at  
start-up.  
Thanks  
for  
any  
help  
you  
can  
provide.

JohnH:  
Maybe  
it's  
a  
good  
idea  
to  
start  
from  
the  
beginning,  
OK?

1.  
Your  
old  
HDD  
booted  
without  
incident  
and  
functioned  
without  
any  
problems  
when  
it  
was  
installed,  
right?

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Its  
only  
problem  
was  
its  
small  
disk  
capacity,  
right?

2.  
Now  
you've  
purchased  
a  
large-capacity  
WD  
SATA  
HDD  
and  
a  
SATA  
controller  
card  
for  
connecting  
that  
SATA  
HDD,  
yes?  
And  
you've  
installed  
the  
SATA  
controller  
card  
with  
no  
problems,  
right?

3.  
Setting  
aside  
the  
disk  
copying  
program  
(Maxtor?  
WD?)

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you  
used  
to  
copy  
the  
contents  
of  
your  
old  
PATA  
HDD  
to  
the  
new  
SATA  
HDD...  
How  
about  
making  
a  
fresh  
install  
of  
the  
XP  
OS  
onto  
your  
SATA  
HDD?  
Will  
it  
boot  
&  
function  
without  
any  
problems  
if  
you  
do  
this?

Would  
it  
be  
possible  
for  
you  
to  
do

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this  
and  
then  
install  
your  
programs  
on  
the  
freshly-installed  
XP  
OS?  
I  
assume  
you  
would  
have  
no  
problem  
copying  
over  
your  
user-created  
data  
from  
the  
old  
HDD  
to  
the  
new  
SATA  
HDD,  
right?  
Or  
is  
it  
too  
impractical  
to  
fresh  
install  
all  
your  
programs  
onto  
your  
new  
SATA  
HDD?  
Anna

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