

# Re: login then log out upon boot

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2007-11/msg01445.html>

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- *From:* John John <[audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 07 Nov 2007 20:16:14 -0400
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mesg wrote:

"John John" wrote:

mesg wrote:

"John John" wrote:

yes. i would like to attempt to edit the registry. as i am currently with out additional hardware items (not at home), and would like to get this done before the weekend if at all possible

Without additional hardware? What are you now using to post to the newsgroups? You need to create a boot cd to fix this, you need a Windows XP cd and a cd burner. You can create a Bart's PE disk and include a registry editor plug-in with it or you can use the Ultimate Boot CD for Windows:

<http://www.nu2.nu/pebuilder/>  
<http://www.ubcd4win.com/>

Let us know if you can create one of these live disks.

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John

yup downloaded and created..i`m currently in my office...corporate locked hardware.. sux but i am unable to access any hardware resources, going to pick up an additional portable usb drive @ best buy..walmart tommorrow to hopefully mount the drive extenally and borrow a laptop to safe the data.

Now that you have created the boot cd just boot the computer with it and use the registry plug-in utility to edit the offline registry. The registry files are located in the following folder:

`\WINDOWS\system32\config`

The hive that you need to load and edit is the SOFTWARE hive, the one without an extension.

Go to the following key and check the userinit value and make sure that it contains only the information as shown below:

`HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon`

Value name: Userinit

Value data: `C:\WINDOWS\system32\userinit.exe,`

\*Note the comma at the end of the value string\*

The value at the userinit value is often changed by virus or other such pests. Run virus and spyware scans on the machine to make sure that it is free of pests.

Windows Log on and Log off immediately.

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/555648>

[http://groups.google.com/group/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/browse\\_frm/thread/75436a01ed7](http://groups.google.com/group/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/browse_frm/thread/75436a01ed7)

John

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i take it..?? that i remove the comma?? the string appears to be intact when opened in the editor. i have removed the comma, saved the edit, and rebooted, with no change to the start-up login/logout

No, the comma *must* be present! If the userinit value is exactly as shown then there is a possibility that the userinit.exe file itself might have been removed by malware. Extract the file from the Windows XP cd and place it in the \windows\system32\ folder.

If the user still cannot logon after ensuring that the file is present and in its proper location and that the registry entry is correct, then another possibility is that the boot partition drive letter has been changed. See [here](#) for more information on how to go about fixing this problem:

How to restore the system/boot drive letter in Windows

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/223188/>

Unable to log on if the boot partition drive letter has changed

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/249321/>

Note that KB249321 provides several solutions, only one need be performed. With your PE disk you have already gained access to the registry of the non booting installation so most of the steps there do not need to be carried out. Using FDISK /MBR can be simple method to use on computers with single disks and single partitions.

John

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