

# Re: Uninstalling Windows XP Home

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2008-02/msg01941.html>

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  - *Date:* Sun, 10 Feb 2008 14:11:27 -0700
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On Sat, 9 Feb 2008 22:35:00 -0800, Ugly Trick  
<UglyTrick@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I want to uninstall Windows XP Home from a computer that I have. I can not get it to uninstall or format the drive. It does not show up in Add/Remove Programs in Control Panel. Help!

As a general rule, you can't uninstall an operating system. You have to reformat the drive and install another operating system cleanly.

There's an exception to that, however. If you did an upgrade from Windows 98 or Me, and took the option to save the previous operating system and also did not convert your drive to NTFS, then you can find an entry in Add/Remove Programs. Clicking on that will uninstall Windows XP and revert to the previous operating system.

If there's no entry in Add/Remove Programs, then one or more of those conditions wasn't met, and your only choice is to reformat and install whatever operating system you want cleanly.

You can't format the Windows drive from within Windows, since that would leave Windows without a leg to stand on.

Just boot from the Windows XP CD (change the BIOS boot order if necessary to accomplish this) and follow the prompts for a clean installation (delete the existing partition by pressing "D" when prompted, then create a new one).

You can find detailed instructions here:  
<http://michaelstevensstech.com/cleanxpinstall.html>

or here  
[http://xphelpandsupport.mvps.org/how\\_do\\_i\\_install\\_windows\\_xp.htm](http://xphelpandsupport.mvps.org/how_do_i_install_windows_xp.htm)

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or here <http://windowsxp.mvps.org/XPClean.htm>

or here [http://www.webtree.ca/windowsxp/clean\\_install.htm](http://www.webtree.ca/windowsxp/clean_install.htm)

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Please Reply to the Newsgroup

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