

Re: Please help! Can't boot my computer after removing partition.

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- *From:* "Pegasus \ (MVP)" <[I.can@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:I.can@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 9 May 2008 00:36:51 +0200
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See below.

"James" <[flyerfanno1@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:flyerfanno1@xxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:4F2097B2-DC47-4BD3-8C5F-13CEAE6FC541@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:4F2097B2-DC47-4BD3-8C5F-13CEAE6FC541@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hello,

I believe I should be able to fix my computer with some more of your help. I made the boot disk with the modified boot.ini file as you wrote it and I copied the files you told me to it. Let me tell you what else I did because I don't think I will need this disk.

I have a spare IDE hard drive for my computer that I want to setup dual booting with Vista on my computer after I get XP fixed. It has been formatted with one partition. So neither of us get confused on the disk I am talking about I will call them by their factory names. The one I removed the partition on and I am trying to get to boot to XP is a Western Digital drive. The spare drive I had is a Seagate, both are 80GB.

I installed the Seagate in my computer and made it a slave to the Western Digital. I then booted to Dos and cloned the Western Digital XP disk to the empty Seagate drive.

\*\*\* What exactly do you mean with "clone"? How did you do this?

I removed the Western Digital disk and set the Seagate as the primary. I then used the HP system CDs to do a safe Recovery. I found the safe Recovery does not format the drive or change the partitions. It is not suppose to delete all the files the user put on there. I have to disagree with that part though.

- \*\*\* Some recovery CDs will clean the slate, others won't.
- \*\*\* If I understand you correctly then the Seagate disk the result
- \*\*\* a) of the "cloning" effort and

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\*\*\* b) of the Safe Recovery action.

By doing the above I got my computer to boot XP off of the Seagate drive with the only partition being "C". I actually used this computer to make the boot disk. I made 2 of them. One I made and left the boot.ini file alone. The other boot disk I made I modified the boot.ini as you instructed.

Although I have the Seagate drive booted and running XP I would like to fix the Western Digital drive and go back to that one. The Seagate is like a Frankenstein Monster. It is back to like out of the box state, but with having my files on it. None of the programs I added to the computer will run now either.

\*\*\* What happens when you try?

It is running very slow too. So I am hoping you can tell me what to copy off of the Seagate to the Western Digital so I can boot the WD drive without changing anything else. I am hoping to avoid what happen to the Seagate drive happening to the WD. That is why I used a spare hard drive and not the WD drive.

\*\*\* Good thinking!

Here is what the Boot.ini file looks like on the Seagate drive:

```
"[boot loader]
timeout=30
default=multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS
[operating systems]
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS="Microsoft Windows XP Home
Edition" /fastdetect"
```

Another thing; the Seagate says it is XP Home Sp1 and the Western Digital is XP Home Sp2 and was fully up to date before I could not boot it anymore.

\*\*\* This is the result of the Safe Recovery step.

Can I just copy the boot.ini file from the Seagate to the WD along with the other files you told me to copy to boot disk? Will that fix the boot trouble on the WD drive? I didn't do anything to the WD drive yet. I wanted to write you first. If I have not given you enough information let me know. I am hoping I am at a spot where I can easily fix the WD drive.

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Thanks again for all your help. I really appreciate it.

James

\*\*\* My initial suggestion was aimed at finding out if Windows  
\*\*\* is intact or damaged. This requires booting with a boot  
\*\*\* diskette or CD. The steps you have taken so far simply  
\*\*\* prove that the Safe Recovery process works.

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