

Re: Crazy XP reinstall...what does this all mean???

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2009-04/msg04424.html>

- *From:* "Tim Meddick" <timmeddick@xxxxxxxx>
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Create a DOS boot disk in Windows XP (using 'format' and checking the 'create MS Start-up disk') then download a floppy-sized copy of the program 'pqmagict.exe' which is rather an old version of Partition Magic for DOS but works very well (and because it is old it is free). Booting with the DOS disk, put in a second floppy with pqmagict.exe on it and type

a:\pqmagict

....to start the program. Using the program create two fat partitions (if you make one 'NTFS' XP SETUP will only want to re-format it anyway). Do this by re-sizing your Win98 partition and creating another fat partition in the space you have created (Give Win98 about double the amount of used space it occupies for the value of the new size).

Put the XP Installation disk in and reboot to it. You will then have an 'empty' partition in which to install XP with no issues of overwriting anything.

Using Pqmagict.exe is relatively simple affair of using 'option keys' to go through lists of available operations like resize; delete; make new. and can create and format the partition in one go (unlike fdisk) and select any partition as 'Active' (the one that tries to boot) (unlike fdisk).

link for pqmagict.exe:-

<http://perso.mediaserv.net/ganja/softs/tools/Bin-2000/PQMAGICT.EXE>

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Cheers, Tim Meddick, Peckham, London.

"kim42" <kim42@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:EE59C99F-D839-4AE5-9512-75D0C7D4AD97@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

-- I am at my wits end! I have been trying all day to do a reinstall of XP.

It should not be this hard to do, but I am running into all kinds of problems. I have a Dell xp reinstallation cd that Dell sent me. I have a Dell

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dimension 4600 computer.

I started the installation this morning and I cancelled the install after

I

received this message: "You chose to install xp on a partition that contains

another operating system. this may cause the other operating system to not function properly. It is not recommended to install multi systems on a single partition."

The only choices available for me to choose were Fat or NTFS...I chose NTFS.

I was told to delete the windows partition and recreate it. after that I will be given the option to reformat the drive. Well that didn't work either. here is what I got when I tried to delete the partition:

"Setup is unable to perform the requested operation on the selected partition. This partition contains temporary setup files that are required to

complete the installation." I Had to cancell the installation once again.

So, I decided to do a restore using F11 even though it wouldn't be a clean install like I originally wanted...by this time I was getting desperate and

willing to settle. Guess what? That didn't work either! It just took me back

to the same place that the Dell cd had me.

My question at this point is: what good is the darn Dell reinstallation cd or the restore thru F11 if it won't let you reinstall!!!!? I guess you can tell I am not too happy right now.

My next step was to put the reinstallation cd back in and try again with the

unrecommended choice of selecting the NTFS partition again with the warning

coming up "It is not recommended to install multi systems on a single partition." But it does give the option to go ahead with the install anyway,

so I chose that option. This what it said after I chose it "A windows folder

already exists that may contain a windows installation. If you continue, the

existing Window installation will be overwritten. All files,subfolders, users

accts.,applications, security & desktop settings for that Windows installation will be deleted. The 'My Documents' folder may also be deleted.

To use the folder & delete the existing windows installation in it, PRESS L

To use a different folder, PRESS ESC.

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F3 to quit setup

Guess what I chose? Yeah F3 again! Oh woe is me, I can't believe this day!

Should I have just selected L and deleted the existing Windows? I almost did, but I chickened out and decided to come here first for advice.

Anyone...tell me what to do? Besides throwing this computer out the window!

Thanks for all your help!!!

kim