

## Re: Moving hard drive to another machine

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.hardware/2004-07/2468.html>

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**From:** Art (notaname\_at\_notanisp)

**Date:** 07/15/04

Date: Thu, 15 Jul 2004 15:56:32 -0400

"Ron Martell" <ron@onlinehelp.bc.ca> wrote in message  
news:gdndf0t2mbupl6itsceajkn51b3nhpb9jn@4ax.com...

> "Art" <notaname@notanisp> wrote:

>

> >The user has an HP notebook that she's disposing of. We want to move the  
> >entire contents of her hard drive to a desktop computer after which her  
> >present notebook's hard drive will be formatted so that the XP (Home  
> >edition) will be removed from the notebook.

> >

> >We cloned her notebook's HD to an external hard drive and then cloned the  
> >latter to the internal HD on the new desktop computer. Naturally it will  
not

> >boot to a Desktop nor boot in Safe Mode, as we anticipated. The problem  
is

> >that when we boot with the new XP install disk (new retail version of XP  
> >Home), there's no Repair install facility available. XP doesn't "see" the  
> >previous Windows installation; it just sees the formatted partition and  
will

> >only allow us to make a new install of the OS on that partition, or  
delete

> >the partition. We assume that this is because the XP OS on the desktop  
> >computer's drive is an OEM version.

> >

> >Is there any way around this dilemma? I note we can access the Recovery  
> >console from the XP install disk. I wonder if there's some way to achieve  
> >the objective through that avenue? Any help would be appreciated.

> >

> >Art

> >

>

> Boot the new desktop machine with a Windows 98 Startup Disk and then  
> run

>

> FDISK /STATUS

>

> Does it show any partitions at all on the drive?

- >
- > *You could also try using MBRWORK from the free utilities section at*
- > *www.bootitng.com*
- >
- > *I have used it before to find "lost" partitions on a hard drive.*
- >
- > *Good luck*
- >
- >
- > *Ron Martell Duncan B.C. Canada*
- > --
- > *Microsoft MVP*
- > *On-Line Help Computer Service*
- > *<http://onlinehelp.bc.ca>*
- >
- > *"The reason computer chips are so small is computers don't eat much."*

Ron:

As I indicated in my posting there's no problem involving a "lost" partition. The XP install disk "sees" the formatted partition during Setup. It just doesn't "see" that there's a Windows OS on that partition. Thus, no Repair option is available during Setup.

Art