

Re: Making a SATA drive the boot drive

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.hardware/2004-12/1592.html>

From: BobV (robowa_at_comcast.net)

Date: 12/17/04

Date: Thu, 16 Dec 2004 20:45:41 -0800

"Bob Harris" <rharris270[SPAM]@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:OIlu3Q94EHA.4008@TK2MSFTNGP15.phx.gbl...

> *SATA is newer than XP, so it can not automatically detect these disks.*

>

> *Instead, you need to press F6 early in the XP installation (watch the
> bottom of the screen). Then, you need to have the SATA drivers on a
> floppy. They must be on a floppy, not on a CD. The XP installer will
> take what it needs. OR, it will present you with a choice, if there are
> multiple drivers (e.g., 98, 2000, XP); choose XP.*

I am doing this

>

> *But, before you even think about installing XP, you need to determine
> whether the SATA controller is also a RAID controller. My ASUS P4S8X has a
> combined RAID/SATA controller. So, I first needed to make a "RAID array".
> But, I did not want to link two disks, so I used the custom RAID options
> to make an array of one disk. The ASUS manual helped, but only a little
> about this important step.*

This is difficult to tell, but I think it is a combined RAID/SATA
controller. I see no way to make a RAID array with only one disk. There is
no option to make a custom RAID array. The ASUS manual is no help at all.

>

> *An interesting aside: Until I made an array, even the Seagate disk prep
> tools could not see the disk. However, in your case it sounds like your
> motherboard is handling some of this for you, since you mention that XP
> can see the disk, after XP is installed on an IDE disk. Or, it could be
> that it knows that one SATA disk must be in an array of its own, or
> maybe you do not have a RAID controller.*

>

Not sure

> *One other item I recall about the installation process: I needed to go
> into the BIOS and set the boot options to include:*

>

> *IDE hard drive = none*

- > *other boot device = SCSI/onboard ATA boot*
- >
- > *and this option on the advanced tab:*
- >
- > *onboard ATA device = enable*
- > *onboard ATA device first = yes*

I have none of these options available in BIOS. I can set the first boot device to SCSI, but then the system hangs when trying to boot.

Thanks, Bob

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- > *As for master and slave, the concepts do not apply to SATA disks, since*
- > *they are one disk per controller.*
- >
- > *"BobV" <robowa@comcast.net> wrote in message*
- > *news:uTuvqBz4EHA.2600@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...*
- >> *I have a new ASUS A7N8X-E with a SATA controller on board, and a new WD*
- >> *SATA drive, and am finding it impossible to make it the boot disk.*
- >>
- >> *XP SP2 will recognize the disk as long as I have a IDE disk installed,*
- >> *and the SATA disk is usable, but I am unable to use it as the boot drive.*
- >> *If I try to reinstall XP without the IDE drive then the install won't run*
- >> *because it says that there are no drives at all.*
- >>
- >> *I can use XP's disk management to partition and format the SATA drive but*
- >> *this doesn't help.*
- >>
- >> *Any answers, thanks, Bob*
- >>
- >
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