

## Re: Can't read HD, MS wants to activate first

---

*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.hardware/2005-09/msg00989.html>

---

- *From:* "D.Currie" <[dmbcurrie.nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dmbcurrie.nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 20 Sep 2005 23:41:52 -0600
- 

Good! Glad it worked for you.

"PeterM" <[pmaston@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:pmaston@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:8oCdnTy9wbcLia3eRVn-rQ@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:8oCdnTy9wbcLia3eRVn-rQ@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)

> Sorry for the long delay, I was not home. The method of using the HD as a  
> secondary one did the trick.....You guys are the best here. Many thanks  
> to you D.Currie and Ron Martell.....Peter

>

> "Ron Martell" <[ron.martell@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ron.martell@xxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message

> [news:12g9i1lmeugg9ic54n51jtqgir7d44esgb@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:12g9i1lmeugg9ic54n51jtqgir7d44esgb@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)

>> "PeterM" <[pmaston@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:pmaston@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

>>

>>>One of our managers asked me to take off his family pictures on a Gateway

>>>computer, it is one of those machines that looks like it only a monitor

>>>and

>>>nothings else. I booted up the machine, and found out that the monitor is

>>>cracked. I can't tell from the outside, but the minute you see the Window

>>>log-on you can see it. So I decided to put it in a Dell Dimension 2400,

>>>which I have extra in the Garage. Much to my surprise, it asked me to

>>>activate the OS first. I called MS and via a message, gave them that

>>>awful

>>>long number, but they said it was not a valid number. I got disconnected

>>>at

>>>that point. I had no problems logging on with the original setup, but

>>>because of the broken screen, was not able to do what I had to do. Isn't

>>>there a way to hook up a second monitor to see if I could do what I need

>>>to

>>>do? Anyway, my question, how can I get around the activation, all I need

>>>is

>>>the family pictures, and the thing can go to hell as far as I and my

>>>manager

>>>is concerned. Any help is appreciated.....The model # is a Gateway GW

>>>P/N 3501-401 Model Profile 4 with a date 01/2003 and serial # 0029530563

>>>it

>>>is running XP Home. It also seems to have a monitor plug on the back, but

>>>I

>>>could not figure out what the keystrokes would be to view the computer

>>>with

Re: Can't read HD, MS wants to activate first

>>>an external monitor. Any help is appreciated.....Peter  
>>  
>> Your Gateway machine would appear to have a BIOS locked OEM version of  
>> Windows XP that is self-activating when used with a Gateway  
>> motherboard but which requires normal activation when used with any  
>> other motherboard/BIOS. Effective 1 March 2005 Microsoft will no  
>> longer allow these versions to activate over the Internet and they  
>> will also decline telephone activation requests.  
>>  
>> Is the Gateway motherboard a standard ATX or Micro-ATX form factor? If  
>> so then it might be possible to install that motherboard into a  
>> standard PC case and use it that way. But if the motherboard is a  
>> custom design (as these all-in-one systems often are) then this may  
>> not be workable.  
>>  
>> Good luck  
>>  
>>  
>> Ron Martell Duncan B.C. Canada  
>> --  
>> Microsoft MVP  
>> On-Line Help Computer Service  
>> <http://onlinehelp.bc.ca>  
>>  
>> In memory of a dear friend Alex Nichol MVP  
>> <http://aumha.org/alex.htm>  
>

---

• **References:**

- ◆ ***Can't read HD, MS wants to activate first***  
    ◇ From: PeterM
- ◆ ***Re: Can't read HD, MS wants to activate first***  
    ◇ From: Ron Martell
- ◆ ***Re: Can't read HD, MS wants to activate first***  
    ◇ From: PeterM
  
- Prev by Date: ***RE: 56K recommendation?***
- Next by Date: ***help on usb external disk problem***
- Previous by thread: ***Re: Can't read HD, MS wants to activate first***
- Next by thread: ***Trouble with serial port on Gateway SOLO notebook***
- Index(es):
  - ◆ ***Date***
  - ◆ ***Thread***