

Re: Boot Problem & HD too?

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2005-09/msg03724.htm

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 - *Date:* Wed, 28 Sep 2005 17:38:20 -0400
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The following quote from your post "my son was able to get the machine to boot with my WinXP Home CD Upgrade Disk, and attempted to reinstall WinXP, but since it's an upgrade disk AND IT CAN'T FIND A PREVIOUS INSTALLATION (my emphasis), it prompts for the previous version's disk." As mentioned in previous posts, a common reason for an error indication of a corrupt or missing ntoskrnl.exe file (and often hal.dll) is caused by the system unable to locate the Windows installation.

Major option would be "repair" – however this option is not presented if the XP setup does not detect a XP installation. Using the XP CD would present two repair options 1. Recovery console (first offer) and 2. Offer to repair windows installation which will be presented for selection – if Setup detected the installation.

Recovery console can be "run" from the CD as follows:

- 1.. Insert the Setup compact disc (CD) and restart the computer. If prompted, select any options required to boot from the CD. Note: You may have to access BIOS to make CD first boot device.
- 2.. When the text-based part of Setup begins, follow the prompts; choose the repair or recover option by pressing R.
- 3.. At the system prompt, type Recovery Console commands; type help for a list of commands, or help commandname for help on a specific command.
- 4.. To exit the Recovery Console and restart the computer, type exit.

At step #2 – not selecting the repair option would normally have setup proceed and hopefully detect the XP installation – if it does not !!!

Use of the recovery console is not for the faint hearted – if you do so please review the function of each command.

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