

Re: Corrupt Windows XP config file

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2005-10/msg01098.htm

- *From:* "Russ" <Russ@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 20 Oct 2005 17:19:02 -0700
-

Booting from the hard drive is impossible right now (at least I sure don't know how to do it). Once the BIOS info is displayed, then next screen has the following:

```
"windows could not start
because the following file is missing or corrupt:
\windows\system32\config\system"
```

So I'm booting from the Windows XP OEM Home CD and entering "R" once the Windows XP install screen comes up to get to the Recovery Console.

My current plan is to make the 2nd partition on that hard drive, which is the D: drive, the active partition and to install Windows XP into that partition. After the Win XP install (if all goes well), I'll establish an Internet Connection and download the Data Recovery application you suggested. Hopefully the data recovery Help Files are explanatory enough to guide me through the process.

I don't have time to do that tonight so I'm probably take on the task tomorrow. But whatever happens, I'll repost here and let you and Carey know what the outcome was.

Thanks again.
Russ

"GTS" wrote:

- > A hacker could cause damage to data (including registry files) if a PC is
- > not properly secured, but could not physically damage the hard drive. The
- > behavior you describe of the chkdsk is unusual. Are you booting from an XP
- > CD or from a hard drive installation of RC?
- > --
- >
- > "Russ" <Russ@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
- > news:27211225-B715-453C-8D96-FEB85802F06A@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
- >> Since the time I posted this, I've rebooted to the Win XP Recovery Console

Re: Corrupt Windows XP config file

>> and ran CHKDSK /R-. In fact I've run it three times because the command
>> keeps aborting and stating that the disk has unrecoverable errors. The
>> CHKDSK status bar will climb to around 70% then revert back to 50% then
>> abort
>> at around 58%. I know this sounds like my daughter crashed the hard drive
>> and that may be true, but the circumstances just seem too coincidental to
>> me.
>> She was in a Chat Room where some idiot kept making sexual remarks to her.
>> She finally had had enough a typed a rude comment back to this individual.
>> He/she said that they would fix her wagon, minutes later her PC locked up
>> and
>> then spontaneously rebooted. That's when the Corrupt Config File messages
>> began showing up. Could some talented(?) PC person actually crash and
>> damage
>> a hard drive by hacking into someone else's computer? Anyways, I'm still
>> stuck and would surely appreciate any help that anyone in this community
>> could provide me with.
>>
>> Thanks. Russ
>>
>> "Russ" wrote:
>>
>>> While starting Windows XP error message appears, "windows could not start
>>> because the following file is missing or corrupt:
>>> \windows\system32\config\system"
>>>
>>> I've printed article 307545 "How to recover from a corrupted registry
>>> that
>>> prevents Windows XP from starting", but the article warns those with OEM
>>> installations to not use this approach for recovery. I have an OEM
>>> Windows
>>> XP installation. Am I just tough out of luck? Would I be foolish to try
>>> the
>>> recovery process as detailed in this article? The article states that if
>>> I
>>> use this procedure, I MAY not be able to log back into the Recovery
>>> console.
>>> My daughter has a college assignment on that PC that wasn't backed up,
>>> and to
>>> her it's priceless. Can someone help me??
>
>
>
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- Prev by Date: [**Re: Memory Testing Programs**](#)
 - Next by Date: [**Re: Desk top Icons gone**](#)
 - Previous by thread: [**Re: Corrupt Windows XP config file**](#)
 - Next by thread: [**Wierd XP repair obstacle**](#)

Re: Corrupt Windows XP config file

- Index(es):

- ◆ *Date*

- ◆ *Thread*