

Re: Frustration installing Win XP

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-09/msg01500.htm

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Most likely there isn't enough space on any partitions in that mess of tiny partitions for Windows XP to install itself! If you succeed in installing XP on such tiny crammed partitions you are bound to run into serious problems later on due to insufficient space to properly maintain the operating system.

What are you trying to do? Upgrade Windows 98 to Windows XP? Remove all drives except the one hosting Windows 98 and try again. That will eliminated potential conflicts to start and will prevent accidental data loss on these drives. These drives can be brought online after you have Windows XP installed and up and properly running.

Quite frankly I think you have an absolute mess on your hands and I would recommend that you get yourself another drive and do a clean installation of Windows XP on that new drive then bring the other drives online after the installation. Or blow all the partitions off one of the disks you now have and install XP on a decent size partition! I know that XP can be installed on smaller partitions but I wouldn't think of installing it on any less than 10 to 15 GB.

John

joseph2k wrote:

I have read a lot of posts and scanned lots of headers, google'd some also.
I have a bit of a weird problem:

My old athlon 800 MHz died, would not power up, replacing the power supply did not help.

So i bought a new mobo with CPU and DDR2 Dram (2GB), the new mobo powers up and passes POST. The previous system was Win98SE. I am trying to save the data on the old hard disks; 1 IDE 1 SCSI. The existing partitioning is a bit strange:

IDE:
9GB disk 8 MB system commander
3.5 GB other OS
Extended partition for the balance
{
1 GB Drive D
2.5 GB Drive E
1.8 GB unformatted / FAT (tried both)
}

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and some wasted space

SCSI:

18GB disk

1.9 GB drive C

10.4 GB extended partition

{

1.9 GB drive F

1.9 GB drive G

1.9 GB drive H

1.9 GB drive I

1.9 GB drive J

}

3.4 GB Other OS

and some wasted space

The old W98SE CD is not bootable, and i do not have those boot floppies any more. My WinXP-SP2 CD cannot deal with the existing partitioning, and will not format / use the existing (free / formatted empty) space on the IDE drive. IIRC XP requires a space on the "boot" drive (which was SCSI "C" in Win98SE), but will not install there, nor will it use the free space or formatted FAT volume on the IDE disk. I think i may be missing something but i want to preserve as much as possible of the previous Win98 installation before getting all brute force about it. Disk volume backups just do not preserve the registry in the same way as an upgrade install.