

# Re: NTLDR is Missing

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support/2006-10/msg03608.htm](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-10/msg03608.htm)

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- *From:* "AJR" <[ajrjdr@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ajrjdr@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 24 Oct 2006 16:34:56 -0400
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Recap of the previous answer – Missing NTLDR usually indicates a change in location system expects to find Windows – doesn't, in most cases, mean that the file is missing.

"MAP" <[mikepawlak2REM@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mikepawlak2REM@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:OKaA5d69GHA.2408@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:OKaA5d69GHA.2408@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Cabguy wrote:

Windows XP Home Edition SP2. On startup, I am getting the message "ntldr is missing". My son thinks he moved the file to another folder when he was moving his own files! I have the XP re-installation disc, and have got as far as the prompt for Administrator Password in the Repair menu, but I can't remember what it is. Is there a way around this???

Check to see if there is a floppy in A drive if not.....

NTLDR is missing?

From a newsgroup post by late Mr. Alex Nichol, Microsoft MVP:

The MBR code hands the boot on to the Active partition; the boot code in that loads NTLDR. There are two cases:

"NTLDR not found" at all may arise because the incorrect partition has been

set as active. This can happen if you have a dual boot and have messed with

the files in that partition that boot; this is not the XP one, or have shifted the boot to the XP partition which does not have NTLDR in it.

"NTLDR damaged" means what it says, the file is there but not working.

Either way, if you have a proper retail type XP CD, not some maker's recovery disk:

Set the BIOS to boot CD before Hard Disk. Boot the XP CD and, instead of Setup, take the immediate R for Repair. Assume any password requested is blank, and TAB over. Assuming this sees the CD as D (likely) give:

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COPY D:\i386\ntldr C:\
COPY D:\i386\ntdetect C:\
(a file that may also be missing)
then rebuild the boot configuration boot.ini file by
Attrib -H -R -S C:\boot.ini
(if not found skip the next line)
DEL C:\boot.ini
BootCfg /Rebuild
```

Other options>

Do not use the repair option in the recovery console, this link will explain it.

<http://michaelstevensstech.com/XPrepairinstall.htm>

This won't help you now, but once your system is up and running again do this edit so the RC won't ask for a password in the future.

The recovery console needs the password for the person who installed XP, not

for just any administrator. If the install was done by a major PC maker, you may need to contact them for it.

However, the password is sometimes blank. So, try just pressing enter when you are asked for a password, it may help.

Or, if you can get into XP, even safe mode, you can arrange to bypass the password by the following registry change:

Instead, just run REGEDIT (Start à Run à Regedit) Navigate to HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsNT\CurrentVersion\Setup\RecoveryConsole

Set the DWORD SecurityLevel value to 1

[http://www.theeldergeek.com/recovery\\_console.htm](http://www.theeldergeek.com/recovery_console.htm)

I wish you luck!

P.S.

This is well worth the expence.

<http://www.acronis.com/>

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Mike Pawlak

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