

Re: NTLDR File is missing Msg upon Windows startup

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2008-06/msg01352.htm

- *From:* "thecreator" <thecreatorof_Xuxa@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 19 Jun 2008 19:04:01 -0400
-

Hi CF,

Ideally, when you use Windows XP Pro Ed CD to partition, format and install the operating system, you want to start with an unpartitioned or new Hard Drive.

For Example: If a brand new Hard Drive was 320 GB in size, you want to use the XP CD to create a partition size of 40 GB in size. After it is created, you will notice an unformatted partition of 8 MB in size. Format that space using either FAT32 or FAT. This will be Drive C:\. Next format the 40 GB in size with the NTFS File System and install Windows XP Pro Ed.

You do not have to finish partitioning the Hard Drive all at once.

Within Windows XP, you can use the operating system to partition the rest of the Hard Drive, or you can use, if you have it, Acronis Disk Director Suite 10. You never ideally want the operating system partition to be larger than 40 GB in size. Maintenance takes forever with large partitions. You want a separate partition for your Documents. Why? You don't need to worry about losing the Documents partition, if your Operating System partition, becomes corrupt and unbootable. You can reformat and reinstall the operating system or even restore an image file of the operating system, when it was working. Now, you can also create a separate partition that holds your Drive / Partition images, but ideally, you want a second Hard Drive to store the image on, if possible.

Let's not forget about Outlook Express Store Folders, or the Briefcase Folder. The Briefcase Folder, itself, does not need to be located on the Desktop, but can be located on the Documents partition, but not within My Documents folder. Just create a shortcut of My Briefcase Folder on the Desktop.

True, it is complicated, but well worth the hassle, if your operating system becomes corrupted or unbootable. It is the User's Decision on how to proceed. Note: Manufacturers create one Large partition and place the operating system and everything inside it, because it is real fast getting it out the door. As a User, you want a safe system, because problems do occur.

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To reply directly, take out "ofXuxa". :)

Both Hard Drives, do not need to be partitioned the same, unless you are using RAID configuration.

--

thecreator

"CF" <CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:7D869B52-4E43-4AE7-8280-578DC853494B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello thecreator,

After reading up on the subject, I can have 2 partitions: the system partition which contains the boot files(NTLDR, NTDETECT, Boot.INI) & the boot

partition which contains Windows.

1) Is this what you were referring to?

2)If this is what you meant, is there an option that allows me to create a system partition while installing windows in the other partitions?

3) If 1 & 2 are true, if I were to create a system backup from the working 'C' drive

do both drives need to be formatted/partitioned/created the same way?

Thanks in advance

Regards,

CF

"CF" wrote:

Hello thecreator,

Curently the large HD has 8 meg unpartitioned space while everything else is

inside one large partition, so I basically created one very large

partition(by the way, this is XP Pro). What would I gain by reformatting &

partitioning the HD into 2 logical drives as it pertains to the boot.ini,

or

for that matter, any file needed during booting of system?

Regards,

CF

"thecreator" wrote:

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Hi CF,

That's okay.

Just remember, if you are starting over, try partitioning your large Hard Drive. I don't have Windows XP Home Edition on any Hard Drive as C:\, I have it installed as E:\ and G:\ on this computer. Partition / Drive C: actually holds the Boot information, where you will find the Boot.ini file. Each time, you make a change, the working Boot.ini is renamed Boot.ini.saved.

This is a normal working Boot.ini Configuration File on my system:

```
[boot loader]
timeout=6
default=multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(2)\WINDOWS
[operating systems]
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(2)\WINDOWS="Microsoft
Windows XP Home
Edition E" /fastdetect /NoExecute=OptOut
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(4)\WINDOWS="Microsoft
Windows XP Home
Edition G" /fastdetect
```

--
thecreator

"CF" <CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:AFB46FF1-C6C9-4345-AFDD-835147ACE1B2@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello thecreator,

I apologize about taking a two week hiatus before tackling these PC issues.

I have good news. After clearing the CMOS bios and using only one connected hard drive, I re-installed XP using the regular format & not quick format.

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I
now have a working system. I was able to
re-connect what was
originally
the
primary HD, but is now the 'E' drive. The
CD-ROM is the 'D' drive.
If you
remember, the current 'E' drive
was the drive originally reporting the
'NTLDR file missing' messages.
After
doing a quick search on boot.ini, XP could
not find it(I probably
need to
click the option which allows me to show
hidden files). I will
retrieve
the
output of the defective drive's boot.ini &
display them to you. At
this
point
I am thinking of trying to copy the boot.ini
from the working 'C'
drive to
the 'E' drive, swapping the cables between
'C' & 'E' & going for
broke.
Otherwise you can expect the output from
the bad boot.ini

Regards,
CF

"CF" wrote:

Hello thecreator,

Thanks very much for
helping. As it turns out, this
motherboard by
Soyo
has
2 internal controllers, so
each HD can be master in its
respective
controller, but controller 2
can never own the "C"
drive. When I

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installed XP
on the "D" drive, it gave
messages that it successfully
installed
but I
never
got past the "Verifying DMI
Pool data" message
followed by
YoYo(unreadable)
machine language. So I will
disconnect the good drive,
connect the
2nd
drive
to primary controller, &
reinstall XP on the drive,
but this time
the 2nd
drive will be the "C" drive
when I do the install. Even
before I
install,
I
will disconnect primary HD
& make secondary HD "C"
drive & reboot,
I may
get
lucky. I could sure use some
luck just about now, But at
least I
have a
plan,
I will keep you posted, I will
be working on this
throughout
weekend, so
you
can lookout for updates
from me during weekend.
Regards,

CF

"thecreator" wrote:

Hi CF,

I found this

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link on the
Web:
<http://www.duxcw.com/faq/computer/dmi.html>

Remove all
CDs from
the CD
Drives and
see what
happens.

Also Clear
Computer
BIOS, by
following
the
motherboard's
manufacturer's
procedure
for resetting
the
Computer
BIOS and
see what
happens.

You will
need to
manually
readjust the
settings you
were using
to
boot
to a specific
Hard Drive.

--
thecreator

"CF"
<CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in
message
news:BD664DA6-9404-4642-B88E-45A64CBA8FF1@xxxxxxxx

Hello
the
creator,

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I
am
really
at
a
loss
here,
running
into
more
unexpected
complications.
After
re-installing
XP
on
the
spare
HD,
Windows
will
still
not
boot
up.
I
get
"Verifying
DMI
Pool
data"
message
followed
by
"type
any
key
to
boot
from
CD".
Normally
I
don't
type
anything
at
that
point
so
Windows

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will
boot
up
from
HD
after
CD
installation.
But
instead,
I
get
"YoYo"(this
is
the
unreadable
stuff
I
mentioned
previously).
Also
different
parts
of
the
ROMBIOS
screen
change
color.
The
last
time
I
experienced
this
I
wrote
the
HD
off,
obtained
another
HD
&
installed
XP,
which
brings
me
to
my

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present
situation.
So
the
only
option
I
have
is
the
following:
Take
the
good
HD
out
of
the
machine
&
put
it
into
another
machine,
copy
the
data
I
want
to
keep
&
open
the
boot.ini
file
so
I
can
forward
to
you
for
review.

If
the
boot.ini
is
repairable,

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I
will
do
the
necessary
changes,
put
HD
back
in
problem
machine
&
try
to
reboot.
By
the
way,
I
am
also
getting
the
"YoYo"
phenomenon
when
I
try
to
boot
from
good
HD.
If
booting
from
good
HD
still
fails,
I
will
format
&
install
XP
&
hope
for
the

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best(since
I
copied
the
data
from
this
HD
into
another
machine).

I
think
I
am
on
the
verge
of
getting
rid
of
this
machine(at
least
the
motherboard
which
gave
me
at
least
7
years).

Any
Thoughts?
Regards,
CF

"CF"
wrote:

Hi
thecreator,
Thanks
for
the
input.
I

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will
install
Windows
on
the
2nd
HD.
Once
re-installed,
I
will
be
able
to
access
the
main
HD.
I
will
also
retrieve
the
contents
of
the
main
HD's
Boot.ini
&
pass
it
along
to
you
for
further
assistance.
Stay
tuned,
Regards,
CF

"thecreator"
wrote:

Hi
CF,

Thanks

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for
getting
back
to
me.

One
way
to
dual-boot
is
to
use
Rombios
to
select
the
Hard
Drive
to
boot
to.

Another
way,
is
to
use
BootIt
NG
program,
that
you
can
buy
or
use
for
30
days,
then
uninstall
and
reinstall
the
program.

<http://www.terabyteunlimited.com/index.htm>

and
download
from:

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<http://www.terabyteunlimited.com/bootit-nea>

If
you
have
access
to
another
operating
system
on
the
same
computer,
then
use
Explore
to
access
the
C:\
partition
on
that
problem
Hard
Drive
and
edit
Boot.ini

.
Sometimes
Boot.ini
gets
changed
and
points
to
a
different
partition,
resulting
in
missing
files
error.

Also
for
Automatic
Updates

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to
work,
the
following
must
be
set
correctly
in
Services:
Automatic
Updates
Set
to
Automatic
Background
Intelligent
Transfer
Service
Set
to
Automatic
or
Manual
Event
Log
Set
to
Automatic

--
thecreator

"CF"
<CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
news:BE10F66D-A01C-42D6-B4C9-71BF

Hello
thecreator,

I
am
using
Drive
C:
and

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there
is
no
dual
reboot.
Although
I
have
2
HD's,
I
have
to
go
into
rombios
to
choose
which
HD
to
boot
from.
The
reason
I
have
2
HD's
is
because
I
thought
the
first
HD
was
bad,
resulting
in
the
acquisition
of
a
2nd
HD.
I
also
tried
some
more

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commands
last
night
with
no
success(mbscan,
mblist,
mbrebuild)
I
could
be
saying
them
incorrectly
but
you
get
the
idea.
I
also
confirmed
my
windows
XP
Pro
CD
is
inclusive
of
SP2.
Each
time
Windows
is
installed,
I
always
turn
on
automatic
updates.
Apparently
no
one
seems
to
be
buying
into
my

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theory
of
bad
memory
as
the
cause.
I
will
replace
the
memory
before
any
further
attempts
at
this
machine,
so
there
is
time
&
I
am
open
to
suggestions.
At
this
point,
the
last
message
I
get
is
"Verifying
DMI
Pool
data"
followed
by
~~~~~(unreadable  
words)  
The  
unreadable  
words  
are  
a

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result  
of  
doing  
the  
FixMbr  
&  
fixboot  
commands.  
Prior  
to  
my  
running  
these  
commands,  
the  
original  
problem  
was  
the  
NTLDR  
file  
missing  
message.  
Anything  
you  
can  
suggest  
would  
be  
greatly  
appreciated.  
Regards,  
CF

"thecreator"  
wrote:

Hi  
CF,

What  
is  
the  
operating  
system's  
Drive  
Letter?  
Is  
it  
C:\?

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Are  
you  
dual-booting?

--  
thecreator

"CF"  
<CF@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
wrote  
in  
message  
[news:047632C7-B242-4AF](mailto:news:047632C7-B242-4AF)

Greetings,

A  
few  
months  
back  
I  
had  
the  
same  
issue  
&  
followed  
the  
advice  
given:  
Delete  
NTLDR  
&  
copy  
back  
from  
Windows  
Installation  
CD  
Delete  
NTDETECT.Com  
&  
copy  
back  
from  
Windows  
Installation  
CD  
If  
these

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things  
didn't  
work,  
then  
I  
did  
the  
following:  
delete  
&  
create  
a  
new  
master  
boot  
record(FIXMBR  
&  
FIXBOOT)  
None  
of  
these  
things  
worked.  
So  
I  
went  
to  
Windows  
Install  
CD,  
chose  
option  
to  
re-install  
windows  
over  
itself,  
&  
now  
I  
get  
message  
with  
some  
kind  
of  
unreadable  
notation  
like  
the  
infinity

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sign.