

Re: regretting upgrade from ME to XP Home

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.newusers/2007-05/msg00365.html>

- *From:* "Ronaldo" <private_email5@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 27 May 2007 10:57:52 -0700
-

"Melody" wrote:

Any suggestions on where I can look for specific instructions about how to do this? Are there limitations on how much upgrading is possible with a given machine?

To know your machine's upgrade limitations (or potential) install ASTRA32. The motherboard is the fundamental component, knowing the make and model of the motherboard you can search for information on it's full potential in the maker's website.. but any motherboard has support for at least two harddrives, and at least two memory modules and your's probably has only one 128MB module and room for another one.

Download ASTRA32 to know your computer's maximum RAM capacity (Look in DMI Memory Info)

<http://www.astra32.com/>

"Melodie" <Melodie@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> escribió en el mensaje news:76CD3C82-C42E-478A-9CE2-405FFE3BC7D3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thanks, Ken. Your information is very helpful! (I posted a response yesterday, but it hasn't show up, so I must have done something wrong.) I checked Add/Remove Programs. No luck there. So if I understand correctly,

I

can backup my files and reinstall ME from CD, in order to get my machine running again. (I'm really sick of hauling this heavy laptop back and

forth

from work!) That will give me some time to buy and install the new HD and RAM. Any suggestions on where I can look for specific instructions about

how

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to do this? Are there limitations on how much upgrading is possible with

a

given machine?

Thanks so much!

Melodie

"Ken Blake, MVP" wrote:

On Sat, 26 May 2007 12:46:04 -0700, Melodie
<Melodie@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

A couple of months ago I decided to upgrade because I was worried about security issues if I continued to use ME. Wish I hadn't done it. I

checked

the system requirements for this upgrade and thought I was OK, but

evidently

not. My hard drive is way too full.

And you have nowhere near enough RAM.

In My Computer it says my C: drive total size is 37.2 GB and free space is 2.72 GB. I've removed a bunch

of old

email and docs, but it didn't help much. Ran Disk Cleanup. Disk is

too full

to run Defrag. I think I even removed some of my virus and spyware

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software,

just trying to clear enough space to defrag.

You might want to consider buying a second hard drive and moving a lot of files to it. Your present drive is *very* small these days.

(Don't worry, the machine isn't vulnerable. I'm using my work laptop at present and don't plan to get

on the

internet again with my home machine until I can get this resolved.)

I've

been reading, and reading, and reading in these discussion

groups.....and now

I'm too scared to do anything else to it! At this point, if its still possible, I think I'd rather just go back to ME.

As a general rule, you can't uninstall an operating system. You have to reformat the drive and install another operating system cleanly.

There's an exception to that, however. If you did an upgrade from Windows 98 or Me, and took the option to save the previous operating system and also did not convert your drive to NTFS, then you can find an entry in Add/Remove Programs. Clicking on that will uninstall Windows XP and revert to the previous operating system.

If there's no entry in Add/Remove Programs, then one or more of those conditions wasn't met, and your only choice is to reformat and install whatever operating system you want cleanly.

I have the reinstallation CD that came with my computer, but I'm afraid I deleted ME files that I

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shouldn't have.

If you use the reinstallation CD, you'll be starting over, so what files you deleted from the hard drive shouldn't be pertinent.

(I think I remember being asked about deleting ME files at some point. Everything worked fine for weeks, so I may have done that.

Sorry,

this was a while back and I just can't remember exactly.) My guess is

that

I'd need a costly upgrade to make XP feasible.

Depending on what type of RAM your computer uses, you should be able to buy another stick of 128MB (for a total of 256MB) for under \$50US. And you can buy a 60–80HD for not much more than \$50.

If I were in your shoes, I'd spend the \$100 or so to upgrade those two components, and you should be all right.

It might make better sense to just buy a new machine.....but I really don't feel comfortable spending

the \$

right now (possible layoff looming). So...if I can go back to ME, that

may

be best.

My system specs:
Dell Intel Pentium 4 CPU 1.60 GHz,

That's fine.

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128 MB RAM

Nowhere near enough. How much memory you need for decent performance is not a one-size-fits-all situation. You get good performance if the amount of RAM you have keeps you from using the page file, and that depends on what apps you run. Most people running a typical range of business applications find that somewhere around 256-384MB works well, others need 512MB. Almost anyone will see poor performance with less than 256MB. Some people, particularly those doing things like editing large photographic images, can see a performance boost by adding even more than 512MB--sometimes much more.

floppy disk drive and CDROM

As you can probably tell, I know just enough to get myself in trouble,

which

is exactly what I've done! I'd appreciate advice from the experts

here, but

please "dummy it down" for me, or I won't get it! Thanks so much!

Melodie

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Ken Blake, Microsoft MVP Windows - Shell/User
Please Reply to the Newsgroup