

Re: don't have SP2 installed and try to go back from SP3, what hap

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.newusers/2008-07/msg00213.html>

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- *From:* "Shenan Stanley" <[newshelper@xxxxxxxxx](mailto:newshelper@xxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 18 Jul 2008 09:42:07 -0500
- 

don wrote:

Situation; computer crashes and you need to reinstall XP Home OEM. Your restore disk does up SP1. You want SP2 because SP3 won't let your computer function fully( you had to roll back SP3 because it stopped your openGL from working).

If you don't have SP2 installed and try to go back from SP3, what happens?

Shenan wrote:

What?  
Your scenario makes no sense.

You restored/cleanly installed Windows XP SP1.  
How are you going to 'roll back' from SP3 if you haven't even installed SP3?

You know you can install whatever Service Pack you desire – right?

As for the problem you had with SP3 – sounds like you had other issues you needed to address with your machine. Perhaps a later chipset driver, later video card driver, later audio driver, etc... I could be wrong – but you could install SP2.. then install SP3 and then install the latest hardware drivers from the manufacturer's of each of your computer's hardware components web page (support/drivers section.) Then you have a fully updated machine and you could test your needs with it and if it fails – uninstall SP3 and go back to SP2 ... \*for now\*...

don wrote:

You asked? "You know you can install whatever Service Pack you desire – right?" No, I don't know that. How would one do say SP2

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through the MS Update site. I was hoping someone could give me an idea how one would do that. I have been advised to get SP2 from a third party site but don't want to take the chance of being given a defective patch or worse, a malware infested patch. I just want to know how to get SP2 safely. How do I get it from MS? Based on this statement from MS update site "Windows XP Service Pack 3 (KB936929) Windows XP Service Pack 3 (SP3) is an update to Windows XP that addresses key feedback from our customers and is a cumulative update that includes all previously released updates for Windows XP, including security updates. " the only SP that will be available will be SP3. Does this mean you can install SP3 and then rollback to SP2?

(Teach whomever advised you to get SP2 from a third party site the following and then ignore any further advice they give you about windows computing... \*grin\*)

This could all be resolved with a little search... No better time to learn than now – as you won't learn any younger how to...

Search using Google!

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

(How-to: <http://www.google.com/intl/en/help/basics.html> )

Example:

how do I download Windows XP SP2

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=how+do+I+download+Windows+XP+SP2>

First hit:

Windows XP Service Pack 2 Network Installation Package for IT Professionals and Developers

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=049C9DBE-3B8E-4F30-8245-9E368D3CDB5A&disp>

(Ignore the spiel about, "If you're updating just one computer, please visit Windows Update", as that is just to make sure you know what you are doing. You do in this case – you are getting SP2 so you can install it on your computer.)

Each Windows XP Service Pack includes all updates released before it – including the prior service packs. What this means is that you could install your Windows XP SP1 from CD and then install SP3 on top of it and you would have – in essence – All updates released since Windows XP was released up until/including SP3.

However, you could not 'roll-back' to SP2 from SP3 unless you had previously installed SP2. SP3 does include SP2 and all the patches released between it and SP3's release date – but if you uninstall SP3 – you go back to the state you were in \*right before\* installing SP3.

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However – if you install Windows XP SP1 (and ensure the firewall is turned on before ever allowing it to connect to the Internet, heck, before even allowing it to SENSE the Internet is near...) and then you download the SP2 from the link above and save it to your desktop and then run it and allow it to install – you will have a Windows XP SP2 machine and use <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/> (for a time anyway) to get patches for Windows XP SP2.

If you installed SP3 on top of it – you could (as long as you keep the uninstall files) roll back to SP2 at any point in time and use <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/> (for a time anyway) to get patches for Windows XP SP2. Sooner or later – Microsoft will stop releasing patches that work unless your machine is SP3 or above.

You can download SP3 in the same manner you did SP2...

Example:

how do I download Windows XP SP3

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=how+do+I+download+Windows+XP+SP3>

Where the first hit is...

Windows XP Service Pack 3 Network Installation Package for IT Professionals and Developers

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloadS/details.aspx?familyid=5B33B5A8-5E76-401F-BE08-1E1555D4F3D4&displa>

(Ignore the spiel about, "If you're updating just one computer, please visit Windows Update", as that is just to make sure you know what you are doing. You do in this case – you are getting SP3 so you can install it on your computer.)

Then you have the full install file for SP3 on your desktop as well – waiting for you to run it and install SP3. Sure – you will still likely have 20+ updates to install after that – but in two rather large downloads – you have all the updates since your CD was stamped (other than those 20–25 or so...)

How many updates do each Service Pack contain (not including the fact they contain the previous service packs and all the updates they contained?)

Example:

What updates are included in SP2 for Windows XP

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=What+updates+are+included+in+SP2+for+Windows+XP>

First hit:

List of fixes included in Windows XP Service Pack 2

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/811113>

(the 820+ updates released between SP1a and SP2...)

Example:

What updates are included in SP3 for Windows XP

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=What+updates+are+included+in+SP3+for+Windows+XP>

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First hit:

List of fixes that are included in Windows XP Service Pack 3

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/946480>

(the 1170+ updates released between SP2 and SP3...)

Hopefully you are getting the hang of Google by now. Use your own wording and be precise about what you are looking for. Change your wording as you start learning the official terms for things during your 'missed' searches.

Anyway – I really think you should fix your issue with SP3 while you can. The free installation support for it ends in April 2009. While that is a pretty good chunk of time away – it'll pass by quickly and you'll be sitting there in May 2009 realizing that in order to get any further updates from MS for your computer – you need SP3 and the free installation support for SP3 is gone. Do it early and get it over with.

A place to get FREE support for SP3 installation issues \*from Microsoft\*...

<http://support.microsoft.com/oas/default.aspx?ln=en-us&prid=11273&gprid=522131>

Windows XP Service Pack 3 – ISO–9660 CD Image File

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=2fcde6ce-b5fb-4488-8c50-fe22559d164e&DisplayLa>

Windows XP Service Pack 3 Network Installation Package for IT Professionals and Developers

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=5B33B5A8-5E76-401F-BE08-1E1555D4F3D4&displa>

WinXP SP3 – Read all prerequisites for a successful installation

<http://msmvps.com/blogs/harrywaldron/archive/2008/05/08/windows-xp-sp3-read-all-prerequisites-for-a-successful>

Steps to take before you install Windows XP Service Pack 3

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/950717>

Release Notes for Windows XP Service Pack 3

<http://download.microsoft.com/download/c/d/8/cd8cc719-7d5a-40d3-a802-e4057aa8c631/relnotes.htm>

Key things to note:

Internet Explorer:

"If you have installed Windows Internet Explorer® 7 or a beta version of Internet Explorer 8, and then install Windows XP SP3, you cannot uninstall Internet Explorer. To avoid this, ensure Internet Explorer 7 or a beta version of Internet Explorer 8 is not installed before installing Windows XP SP3. If you have already encountered this issue, uninstall Windows XP SP3, uninstall Internet Explorer, and then reinstall Windows XP SP3."

Windows XP Media Center Edition 2002:

"If you install Windows XP SP3 on a computer running Windows XP Media Center Edition 2002 with SP1, Windows XP Media Center Edition may malfunction. To avoid this, install Windows XP SP2 before you install Windows XP SP3. If this issue has already occurred, uninstall Windows XP SP3, install Windows

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XP SP2, and then reinstall Windows XP SP3."

It seems some people are unable to get further updates after installing SP3... Seems some have experienced a symptom similar to doing a repair installation on Windows XP – and the same fix seems to work for them for that...

Updates are not installed successfully from Windows Update, from Microsoft Update, or by using Automatic Updates after you repair a Windows XP installation

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/943144>

Some people experience an "endless reboot" issue...

From PA Bear [MS MVP]:

Workarounds:

<http://msinfluentials.com/blogs/jesper/archive/2008/05/08/does-your-amd-based-computer-boot-after-installing-xp>

[NB: The above has been updated many times and now includes "a small tool that will detect the IntelPPM problem and mitigate it before installing [WinXP SP3]."

1. Boot into Safe Mode and rename INTELPPM.SYS to INTELPPM.OLD.
2. After booting into Safe Mode:  
Start --> Run --> (copy/paste)  
sc config intelppm start= disabled  
--> OK --> Reboot into normal (Windows) mode.

Other references include:

.. <http://aumha.net/viewtopic.php?p=187790#p187790>

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<http://msinfluentials.com/blogs/jesper/archive/2008/05/08/does-your-amd-based-computer-boot-after-installing-xp>

.. [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/05/09/windows\\_xp\\_sp3\\_reboots\\_crashes/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/05/09/windows_xp_sp3_reboots_crashes/)

..

<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9084418>

.. You receive a "Stop 0x0000007E" error message after you upgrade to Windows XP Service Pack 2 or Service Pack 3 on a non-Intel-processor-based computer (Revised 06 May-08)

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/888372>

Some people have gotten an "Access Denied" message when trying to install SP3... Method 3 of this article:

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/949377>

Beyond that – some simple maintenance might be needed – like installing the latest hardware drivers from your hardware vendors...

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Shenan Stanley  
MS-MVP

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How To Ask Questions The Smart Way

<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

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