

Re: How to reinstall Windowx XP on an IBM Thinkpad A31p laptop PC

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup_deployment/2004-03/2579.html

From: Pegasus \ (MVP\) (I.can_at_fly.com)

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"Orak Listalavostok" <oraklistal@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:44d113e9.0403290220.57e92696@posting.google.com...

> **QUESTION:**

> *Where am I supposed to obtain the WinXP installation CDROM for my IBM laptop?*

>

> **BACKGROUND:**

> *When I received my first company IBM Thinkpad A31p about a year ago,*

> *instead of handing it to the IT department to image with the corporate*

> *standard Windows 2000, I immediately (broke company rules and) formatted*

> *the two 60 Gbyte disks & installed a dual-boot Win2K/RH Linux 7.3 setup*

> *myself.*

>

> *That was a mistake. Why?*

>

> *Because I lost all the IBM-supplied WinXP drivers when I ran fdisk & format*

> *on the original hard disk. But, there was no turning back. One by one,*

> *over time, I fixed all hardware and driver conflicts on that Win2K*

> *system.*

>

> *In fact, it was fun finding the drivers & software. I learned a lot.*

>

> *However, for my next corporate IBM Thinkpad A31p, I didn't make the exact*

> *same mistake. Instead of handing it to the IT department, I simply left*

> *the WinXP OS as it came installed & upgraded my user software as needed*

> *(saving a backup of every installation program as I performed the task).*

>

> **BUT THERE IS ONE INSTALLATION PROGRAM I AM MISSING. Windows XP.**

>

> **OS SUMMARY:**

> *In neither case did my IBM ThinkPad A31p come with a Windows XP CDROM.*

> *In both cases, there is a Windows XP Product Key on the bottom of the laptop.*

microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup_deployment: Re: How to reinstall Windowx XP on an IBM Thinkpad A31p laptop P

- > *Each also has a Microsoft Certificate of Authenticity on that sticker.*
- > *In both cases, I can ask my IT department to back up and install WinXP.*
- > *However, I like to do things myself when I can (this should be easy).*
- >
- > *CURRENT SITUATION:*
- > *If I wish to reinstall the Windows XP operating system on my newer WinXP*
- > *IBM ThinkPad, I assume I merely need to press F—something (which shows*
- > *every time I reboot). I assume that will reinstall Windows XP wiping out*
- > *all my additions (so I won't do it until/unless I first backup contents).*
- >
- > *NOW TO MY QUESTION:*
- > *On my older IBM ThinkPad A31p laptop (which I had reformatted &*
- > *installed Windows 2K/Linux) HOW DO I GET WINDOWS XP ON IT NOW?*
- >
- > *That is, where am I supposed to obtain the WinXP installation CDROM?*
- >
- > *NOTES:*
- > *I assume I already paid for WINXP in the purchase of the IBM A31p laptop*
- > *since the sticker says so on the bottom.*
- >
- > *Q: Where do I legitimately obtain the WinXP CDROM for my IBM A31p laptop?*
- >
- > *Thank you,*
- > *Orak*

This might be a good time to consult your IT department. They will most certainly have a WinXP CD. They would also have advised you in the case of your first IBM Thinkpad that there are several ways of installing multi-booting:

- a) The gentle way: Use a partition manager to resize partitions on the fly, non-destructively, then add OSs one by one; or
- b) The sorched earth method: Wipe everything, then start afresh.