

## Re: Cloning with XP?

**Source:**

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup\\_deployment/2004-05/1508.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup_deployment/2004-05/1508.html)

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**From:** Mike Brannigan [MSFT] ([mikebran\\_at\\_online.microsoft.com](mailto:mikebran_at_online.microsoft.com))

**Date:** 05/19/04

Date: Wed, 19 May 2004 08:07:07 +0100

"Steve" <[sphillips@statusone.com](mailto:sphillips@statusone.com)> wrote in message  
news:ee9301c43d25\$66eaba80\$a001280a@phx.gbl...

> *Yes but I want to make sure I get this right.*

>

> *Here is what I'm going to do. We have 50 laptops in a  
> classroom that I want to reimage say once a month. So I'm  
> going to Build a model computer, run sysprep & then image  
> that. So when I clone the computer to the 50 laptops &  
> then boot them up they come to the registration part where  
> I put in product key for Windows & username/computer name,  
> etc. Then you ahve to do online activation I take it.  
> Does this mean I can only reimage them 3 times & then I  
> can't anymore?*

>

> *Can you tell yet that I'm just getting into this stuff &  
> trying to learn ;) Thanks for all the help.*

>

Steve,

You will have an issue with your reactivation – UNLESS you are using volume  
licensed media

Since you will be deploying to each machine once a month when you then  
attempt to activate it using its unique product activation key – you will  
receive the message that it has already been used and you will then have to  
activate via telephone.

I assume you ARE using VL media and keys (you did not mention this in your  
original post)

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Regards,  
Mike

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Mike Brannigan [Microsoft]

This posting is provided "AS IS" with no warranties, and confers no  
rights

Please note I cannot respond to e-mailed questions, please use these  
newsgroups

## microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup\_deployment: Re: Cloning with XP?

"Steve" <sphillips@statusone.com> wrote in message news:ee9301c43d25\$66eaba80\$a001280a@phx.gbl...  
> Yes but I want to make sure I get this right.  
>  
> Here is what I'm going to do. We have 50 laptops in a  
> classroom that I want to reimage say once a month. So I'm  
> going to Build a model computer, run sysprep & then image  
> that. So when I clone the computer to the 50 laptops &  
> then boot them up they come to the registration part where  
> I put in product key for Windows & username/computer name,  
> etc. Then you ahve to do online activation I take it.  
> Does this mean I can only reimage them 3 times & then I  
> can't anymore?  
>  
> Can you tell yet that I'm just getting into this stuff &  
> trying to learn ;) Thanks for all the help.  
>  
>  
>>-----Original Message-----  
>>Hi Steve,  
>>  
>>No, I believe that means that you can run Sysprep with  
> the directive to  
>>reset activation up to three times on the same  
> installation of the operating  
>>system. So, if you install XP, and run Sysprep with  
> instructions to reset  
>>the activation, you can run Sysprep again (and tell it to  
> reset the  
>>activation) two more time.  
>>  
>>Does that make more sense?  
>>  
>>--  
>>Mike Kolitz MCSE 2000  
>>MS-MVP - Windows Setup and Deployment  
>>  
>>  
>>"Steve" <sphillips@statusone.com> wrote in message  
>>news:ed9101c43d0f\$b0800440\$a001280a@phx.gbl...  
>>> Question on this article:  
>>>  
>>> How to Use Sysprep with Windows Product Activation or  
>>> Volume License Media to Deploy Windows XP  
>>> (<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;299840>)  
>>>  
>>> "Product Activation with Retail Media Windows Product  
>>> Activation is designed to work with drive imaging  
>>> products  
>>> that are available from third-party manufacturers. You  
>>> can  
>>> use the Sysprep utility that is included with Windows XP  
>>> to reset activation up to three times.  
>>>  
>>> After Windows XP is imaged and then deployed, Windows  
>>> Product Activation initiates the activation timer, which  
>>> resets the installation ID (and enables the full grace  
>>> period) at first start after the installation of Windows  
>>> XP is complete on the target computer. Unlike Volume  
>>> Licensing, unique product keys are required for each of  
>>> the target computers. However, a manual telephone call

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```
> is
>>> not necessary as long as the target computers have
>>> Internet connectivity and the product keys are valid; in
>>> that case, the computer activates online automatically."
>>>
>>> -----
>>>
>>> I've been working on this for hours & getting kinda
> fuzzy.
>>> I have a classroom with 50 laptops with XP Pro. Does
> this
>>> mean that I can only reimage them 3 times & then I can't
>>> anymore? I want to be able to reimage when we are done
>>> with a training to be fresh for next wave of people.
>>
>>
>>.
>>
```