

RE: XP Upgrade Setup disc won't detect existing XP OS for repair

Source:

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anonymous_at_discussions.microsoft.com

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I can still see all of my file contents in DOS using Recovery Console on the XP Setup disc and NTFS Reader on a diskette. I can't copy the files I want with the former, but with the latter I can. The only problem is that the place where I want to copy them, which is my 80gb external hard drive, is not detected by NTFS Reader. If you could give me advice on how to copy, from DOS, the files I want to my external disk drive, which I can view the directory contents of in Recovery Console, that would be helpful. Again, I'm doing what I can to avoid losing these files, so a little extra work to do that is fine by me.

>-----Original Message-----

> *If you booted to xp cd,install xp,repair this copy,and it wasnt successfull,*

> *then try again.If still doesnt repair,youre only choice is to install new*

>*copy,*

> *trying another xp cd,or ME,would be a waste of time.You might loose 6 weeks*

> *of personal files,but next time youll copy them to a cd,or use File-Transfer-*

> *Wizard and have it save files,data,settings,etc. so it wont happen again.*

>

> *"Travis" wrote:*

>

>> *A week ago I made the awful mistake of unchecking*

>> *the "Read Only" tab of my Windows XP System32 folder.*

I

>> *was trying to install an old app called Total Recorder*

>> *(version 3) that I had used with Windows ME but it was*

>> *getting an error. I did a quick Google search on the*

>> *problem and someone suggested something about making*

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>> *System32 not "Read Only" for it to work, but it still
>> wouldn't install. Later on, while not having rebooted,
I
>> installed Nero from CD. This went fine and I said yes
to
>> the normal part about resetting before changes could
take
>> effect. When I rebooted, however, I was denied access
to
>> Windows XP. It wouldn't get past the login menu and
>> neither my account nor Administrator worked. I put in
my
>> XP CD, which is an Upgrade disc for the Home Edition.
I
>> rebooted and the CD loaded in Windows interface but I
got
>> errors when trying to repair. I rebooted and used the
CD
>> in DOS. I tried to do a Repair Installation, which
seemed
>> to go OK, but upon completion I had to reboot and
setup
>> presumably attempted to resume in Windows. However, I
got
>> an error for that, too. Every time I rebooted it would
>> get to Windows where it said 35 minutes were remaining
>> but stop with a fatal error after just a few minutes.
I
>> don't know if it was before or after I used a Windows
>> 98SE boot disk downloaded from bootdisk.com, but
>> eventually I was unable to make it to Windows, even in
>> Safe Mode or trying Last Known Good Configuration.
Using
>> the XP Setup CD in DOS, I accessed the Recovery
Console
>> and can see that my files are all there and bootcfg
lists
>> my correct OS. I copied ntdetect.com and ntldr from
the
>> Windows CD's I386 folder to C:\ but the problem
>> persisted. I copied a new boot.ini that I'm fairly
sure
>> is an exact replica of the one I used successfully
with
>> XP from early August until last Wednesday and that
didn't
>> change anything, nor did using fdisk, chkdsk /p or /r,
or
>> bootcfg /rebuild.
>>
>> When I load the computer without a boot disk or the*

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Setup

>> *CD, it still has the XP splash screen and the green
>> status bar moves, but it then gets to a light blue
page
>> that reads in white text that configuration of the
system
>> for restarting was unsuccessful and "Setup may not
>> restart or may operate erratically." This is on screen
>> for about 10 seconds before it goes all black with a
>> white Windows cursor. I can't ctrl+alt+del from this
>> point and nothing can be done except moving the mouse.
>>
>> When I try to use the regular repair option (not the
>> Recovery Console) I can't because the Setup CD no
longer
>> detects my installation of XP. It asks for a full
version
>> of XP or, I think, any 9x version of Windows to be
placed
>> in the drive, I guess to prove I'm an owner before
>> proceeding. However, I've only ever had Windows 95 and
ME
>> on recovery discs made by the manufacturers of the
>> computers I've purchased. XP Home Edition Upgrade was
the
>> first retail OS I purchased. If I could find a CD
other
>> than Upgrade to put in the drive, what kind of options
>> would be presented and could they solve my problem? My
>> main concern is not losing files I hadn't backed up
>> (pictures, music, documents) in the 6 weeks I used XP
>> after reformatting my hard drive pre-installation. My
>> last resort is to go home (four hours round trip) and
>> retrieve my old Windows ME discs to reinstall in order
>> for XP Setup to continue. This would be time consuming
as
>> well as a waste of valuable hard drive space, a big
mess,
>> and a major risk of data loss as I'm not at all sure
if I
>> could use the manufacturer discs to install ME on top
of
>> what I have already or if it would perform a complete
>> reformat.
>>
>> I was running Norton with current virus definitions so
I
>> am positive that the problem was not caused by a virus
or
>> trojan but by my own error that I really should have
>> known better than to make.*

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>> *Thanks for any help you can provide.*

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