

# windows lost when adding new memory

---

*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup\\_deployment/2005-04/msg00111.htm](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup_deployment/2005-04/msg00111.htm)

---

- *From:* "ICTag" <[ICTag@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ICTag@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 1 Apr 2005 08:55:02 -0800
- 

Hi,

When I added new memory to my XP Home pc the windows boot failed with the error message:

the following file is missing \windows system32/config system  
(note the missing drive prefixing the directory path)

After 2 weeks of trying to recover (including upgrading to xp pro, slipstream cds....) I finally gave up and used the initial oem cd which formatted the disk and put everything back in its original state.

I bought a new memory chip and now I'd like to try and add this new memory but I'm worried that the same thing will happen again.

My question:

1. Is a normal backup sufficient to recover a non-bootable pc or does this not backup the mbr etc?
2. How can adding new (possibly defective) RAM make windows forget how to boot? (I seem to remember reading about this in another forum but I can't find this now)

Best regards,  
Alan

---

- *Follow-Ups:*
  - ◆ **[Re: windows lost when adding new memory](#)**
    - ◇ *From:* Bruce Chambers
- Prev by Date: **[Re: Imaged PC runs hardware wizard?](#)**
- Next by Date: **[Re: OEM recovery or new-install when XP home fails to boot](#)**
- Previous by thread: **[Re: Using multiple drivers?](#)**
- Next by thread: **[Re: windows lost when adding new memory](#)**
- Index(es):
  - ◆ **[Date](#)**
  - ◆ **[Thread](#)**