

Re: Virus issue relating to dual booting XP and Vista Beta 2

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup_deployment/2006-08/msg00292.htm

- *From:* Martin Healy <MartinHealy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 2 Aug 2006 05:51:02 -0700
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Many thanks for answering my query above. From your helpful response, I take it that it is possible that a virus on one partition can infect files on another partition. And from your last comment, I interpret that there is no risk of a security issue on one disk compromising or jeopardising the security of another hard disk. Where can I purchase a removable caddy system or external bay for putting my hard disks into? Is this device connected to the PC via USB and will I notice a slow down using this device? I have also considered using Virtual PC 2004 in order to switch between XP and Vista. However, according to Microsoft, virtualisation for Vista will only be supported using Virtual PC 2007 (new version). Is this true? I see from this <http://www.computerperformance.co.uk/vista/virtualpc2004.htm> article that it is not possible to capture an ISO image that exceeds 2.2 GB with Virtual PC 2004. This would be a problem if I was trying to capture the Windows Vista Beta 2 ISO image saved on my hard drive as it is over 3GB in size. Any workaround or is Virtual PC 2004 not suitable for running Vista as a virtual guest machine on a XP host.

I would welcome one last reply to this matter.

Thanks,

Martin

"Robert Moir" wrote:

Martin Healy wrote:

I am currently planning on installing windows XP and Windows Vista on two separate primary partitions or logical drives in a dual boot setup. The data will be stored on another partition. I'm wondering if I encountered a virus corruption problem or virus attack while working with Windows Vista Beta 2; would my entire hard drive or disk be infected with this virus? In other words, if my Vista partition was infected with a virus, would this mean that my XP partition and

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data partition would be infected as well or would I still be able to boot into XP and access my data as before? The reason I'm asking this is because many established antivirus vendors apart from Trend Micro will probably not provide beta support for this test software.

It's entirely possible that a virus on one partition or disk can infect files on another.

Would it be advisable to install Vista Beta 2 on a separate internal hard disk instead of installing it in a dual boot setup on the same disk?

I would personally go a step further, I would look at putting the hard disks into a removable caddy system so that only one disk at a time will be on your computer. That way you'll be certain that you're testing Vista properly, that you're using XP "properly" and that no problems can be caused by the beta software, and most importantly judging from your post, there is no chance of a security issue on one disk causing a problem with files on the other.

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Rob Moir, Microsoft MVP for Security

Blog Site – <http://www.robertmoir.com>

Virtual PC 2004 FAQ –

<http://www.robertmoir.co.uk/win/VirtualPC2004FAQ.html>

I'm always surprised at "professionals" who STILL have to be asked:

"Have you checked (event viewer / syslog)".