

Re: Uninstalling Win XP without formatting?

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On Mon, 3 Dec 2007 09:49:20 -0800 (PST), keith <it@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

To respond to a few points:

Why am I reinstalling? Because I upgraded mobo & cpu a while back and its been way too slow since, think I need a clean install to get the drivers back right.

Why was I looking to put it in a seperate partittion? Was remembering that people I knew used to have the OS in a seperate partition, so that they could perform a clean install simply by formatting that partition, leaving data intact. Now I actually think about it tho, that was back in the Win 98 days, and the people were fairly hardcore gamers who felt the need to do a clean install every few months to keep the system from slowing down. As neither really applies to me I guess its not that necessary.

On the other hand I have more data on the drive than I have an easy way to back up.

Keith, even if you DO "create a separate partition for just the OS", you will STILL have your problems.

- 1) Its NOT possible to move some programs entirely out of the System partition. (Such as Office, e.t.c.)
- 2) Any version of Windows previous to Vista loves to "live" on Drive 0, Partition 0. It's NOT a good idea to install it elsewhere.

You would be BETTER OFF to do this:

- 1) Download XP SP3 RC.
- 2) Back up all your data to ANY partition except Disk0, Partition0.
- 3) Install XP on Disk0, Partition0 after deleting that partiiton and recreating it, then formatting it as NTFS (it can all be done from within the XP installer).
- 3a) Make sure you create this partition large enough. I suggest a minimum of

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80GB for your System Partition. With today's huge drives, 80GB is not unreasonable, and gives you plenty of room for the OS and its files.

4) Install XP SP3 RC, rather than going to Windows Update. It may be downloaded from Microsoft if you have a hefty Internet connection. If not, it may be purchased from Microsoft starting next week. Usually, these disks cost about \$10 for shipping and handling.

This has decided advantages:

- 1) It leaves XP on the recommended partition, if you ever decide to upgrade to Vista (or Windows 7).
- 2) It leaves the Registry clean as a whistle.
- 3) XP SP3 RC will really improve your OS performance, as well as your machine performance. I've not seen any bugs yet.

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Donald L. McDaniel

Please reply to the original thread and newsgroup.

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