

What To Do When Windows Won't Boot-Up

By Otis F Cooper

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When Windows fails to boot it is normally caused by the installation of a program or device which caused a conflict with one or more other programs. This will no doubt give you plenty of heartache if you're not certain which program caused Windows to not boot up.

If you recently installed a program or application and know where it was installed, you may be in much better shape as far as correcting the error. Here are common ways to correct the problem of your computer not completely booting up or not booting up at all.

If your computer will not boot-up at all, hopefully you have made a good emergency boot disk. You can always make a windows startup disk by creating one from another computer running Windows 98 or Me. Perform the following if your computer.....

Won't Boot-Up At All

FIRST.....Put your boot floppy disk in the floppy drive and turn on the PC. On some computers, you may have to access the bios and select the Boot priority to your A: drive. Save any changes and select "Start Computer without CDROM support" and press Enter. Once you are at the A prompt, type dir c: and press enter.

SECOND....If your programs and other files are present, your hard drive is good. Try to repair or restore your system Registry by following the steps below. This may repair Windows, the Config. Sys and autoexec.bat files to where the PC may boot up normally.

THIRD.....If the above procedure did not correct the problem of your computer not booting up,type in "fdisk /mbr" and press Enter to restore your master boot record.Type "Scandisk C:" to check the hard drive for errors that may have occurred. You can also type "Sys C:" to hopefully restore files needed to boot up your computer.

FOURTH.....If the above procedures fail to repair your computer,you can repeat the first part of step one above and select "Start Computer With CDROM Support" re-install Windows.

Making A Windows XP Bootable Floppy

Windows XP users should create a boot disk now by placing a formatted blank diskette in the A: drive, open Windows Explorer to the C:,select Tools,Folder Options ,show Hidden files and and folders,then View Tab.

Now you uncheck "Hide Protected Operating System Files (recommended).You will see a warning and click Yes and click OK.Copy the files ntldr,ntdetect.com and boot.ini onto the disk.Remove the disk and label it the Windows XP Boot Disk.

After making your boot disk,recheck "Hide protected operating system files and folders (recommended)" in the Folder Options dialog box.

To use the disk when Windows XP won't boot,place the disk in the drive,and unto re-booting,the computer, Windows simply bypass the basic boot files on the hard drive and continue to boot up.

If The PC Won't Boot Pass Windows

FIRST.....If your Operating System is Windows Millennium,turn on the computer and immediately press and hold down the CTRL key.Once the startup options appear,release the CTRL key. Select Safe Mode and press Enter.You are now in Windows limited version.If you know what caused your computer not to boot,you can now either change or delete that program.

SECOND....Repair your Registry by selecting Start,Run and typing "scanregw /fix" and press enter.This will fix any damage done to the Registry. You can also restore your registry which replaces

your current registry with an earlier copy that was backed up by your computer. Click on Start, Run and type "scanregw /restore" and press Enter.

To repair your Windows 98 Registry, hold down the CTRL key as you start the PC and select "Command Prompt Only". Type "scanreg /fix" and press Enter and "scanreg/restore" to restore a previously saved copy of the Registry.

If you have Windows XP, press F8 after rebooting the PC should Windows freeze while booting up. You can select "Last Known Good Configuration" after rebooting to allow the computer to boot the last backed up files. And you can choose "Safe Mode" to remove any files you know caused the operating system to hang up.

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