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Install Windows XP on a Mini-Note (USB stick method)



Installing Windows XP or any other operating system is easy if you have a USB optical disc drive. But if all you've got is a USB flash drive and another computer with a DVD burner, you can still install Windows XP (or many Linux distributions for that matter) on a disc drive-less ultraportable like the HP Mini-Note or the Asus Eee PC. After spending most of Saturday installing Windows XP on my HP Mini-Note I thought I'd share my results with you. Remember, your results may vary, so while these are the steps that worked for me, they may not work for you. For example, depending on the version of Windows XP you are using, you may need a different hotfix to install the audio drivers.

There were two resources that were extraordinarily helpful. Bsumpter at MiniNoteUser wrote up [an excellent tutorial](#) for installing XP on a Mini-Note, and EeeGuides has a great walkthrough for [installing XP on an Eee PC using a flash drive](#). By combining these methods and a few other, I was able to setup my Mini-Note with a Windows partition, a spare partition for installing Linux, and a large data partition for shared files.

Here's what you'll need:

1. 1 USB flash drive, 1GB or larger
2. 1 Windows XP installation disc
3. Assorted files that I'll describe as we go along.

Preparing the flash drive

First up, we need to prepare the flash drive.

1. Download and unzip [this file](#), which should contain 2 folders: 1 titled Bootsect, and the other USB_prep8.
2. Navigate to the USB_prep8 folder and click on usb_prep8.cmd. This will bring up a Windows console window.
3. Press any key to continue and a PeToUSB window will open.
4. Make sure your flash drive is selected, and click start to format your flash drive.
5. When the format is complete, click OK, but do not close the PeToUSB window or the Windows Console.
6. Open a new console window by typing "cmd" into the run box in the Windows Start Menu.
7. Find your Bootsect folder (if you're not used to DOS commands, you can type "dir" to list directories and files, type "cd foldername" to navigate to a folder name – called foldername in this example, and if there's a long folder name you can save time by typing the "cd" and just the first few letters and then hitting the Tab key to fill in the rest of the name).
8. Once you're in the Bootsect folder, type "bootsect.exe /nt52 g:" if "g" is the letter assigned to your flash drive. If it's E, then change the letter to e. If it's Z, make it z. Get it?
9. When this is done, you should see a message letting you know that the bootcode was updated, and you can close this console window (but **not** the other console window).
10. Close the PeToUSB Window, but make sure not to close the remaining console window yet
11. You should now see a list of 8 options in the console.
12. Select one and find the drive with your Windows installation disc.
13. Select 2 and pick a random drive letter (but not one that's already on your PC, since this will be a virtual drive used for copying your files).
14. Select 3 and enter the drive letter for your USB flash drive.
15. Select 4 and follow the rest of the on-screen directions and you should be all set.

The process should take about 15-20 minutes. When it's done, you should have a bootable USB stick that you can use to install Windows XP the same way you would if you had a CD/DVD drive.

A few notes here. First of all, there's a chance you may get down to step 15 and the program will tell you that it can't create the virtual drive. This may happen if you've already gone through the whole process and are trying to do it again to fix problems. The solution seems to be rebooting your computer and trying again. Or at least that's what worked for me.

Second, if you use [NLite](#) to shrink/slipstream/otherwise modify your Windows XP installation file, make sure you do not remove "manual installation files," or your USB stick will be pretty much useless.

Installing XP on the Mini-Note

Now it's time to load Windows XP onto your Mini-Note. If you have a USB CD/DVD drive, you probably skipped all the stuff above, and that's fine. Most of the following steps should work as well. These instructions should work whether you're installing Windows XP on a system that came preloaded with SUSE or Windows Vista.

1. Insert your USB flash drive in one of the USB ports on your Mini-Note.
2. Power on your computer and hit F9 to bring up a boot device selection window.
3. Choose your flash drive, or if you're using a USB optical disc drive, select that instead.
4. Select 2 for a text-based installation.
5. Make sure to delete all of the partitions on the hard drive. While you may have some success

creating separate partitions on your hard drive using this method, I did not. If you find yourself with a Hal.dll or bootloader missing error when you're finished, there's a good chance it's because you did not delete all of the partitions. Note that I will be providing instructions in the next section for partitioning your hard drive **after** installing Windows XP, so you can still create a Linux partition later.

6. Create one large NTFS partition (using the quick option will save you a lot of time)
7. Follow the on-screen directions.
8. At least once during the install process, you will be prompted to reboot your computer. If you try to let it boot from the hard drive, you'll get an error message. What you need to do is hit F9 again when it reboots and this time select option 1 for a GUI setup.
9. Once you're done installing XP, you may notice that you are unable to boot into Windows from the hard drive. If you have the USB disk installed, again hit F9, and select the GUI option again.

Windows should start. You'll need to edit the boot.ini file:

1. Type "msconfig" into the run box in the start menu
2. Select the BOOT.INI tab
3. First, try the "Check All Boot Paths," option. This may solve your problem by finding and removing the incorrect boot settings.
4. You may also need to edit the boot.ini file manually if it doesn't read something like 'multi(o)disk(0)rdisk(o)partition(1)\Windows="Windows XP Pro" /fastdetect'
5. The most likely problem is that wrong partition is selected. It may say (0) or (2) or something like that. The steps below will show you how to backup and edit it.
6. Open your System Properties by right-clicking on My Computer and choosing Properties. Alternately, you could type "sysdm.cpl" into the run box in the start menu
7. Select the Advanced Tab
8. Click the Settings option under Startup and Recovery
9. Click the button that says Edit to open up your boot.ini file in Notepad. It's a good idea to save a backup now by selecting Save As, and saving the file to a place where you won't forget it.
10. Now you can (somewhat) safely edit the boot.ini file, changing the partition number or other settings to more closely resemble the one I listed above. Save your file, and hopefully you'll be able to reboot without your USB stick.

Configuring Windows XP

Update: HP has added Windows XP drivers to its [support page for the Mini-Note](#). You should try these official drivers before using the drivers listed below.

Now you should have a working Windows XP desktop, but you'll find that you can't connect to the internet via Ethernet or WLAN, you have no sound, and no support for the Fn keys. In order to fix these issues you're going to need a few files. I've wrapped them all up into [a ZIP file](#) which you can download.

Once you've downloaded this file using another computer, you can copy it to your Mini-Note using a flash drive or SD card. Or if you'd rather just install the Ethernet drive so you can download the full 20MB ZIP file on your Mini-Note, you can find the [Broadcom Ethernet Driver here](#). Once you unzip the files into a folder, you should have everything you need to get Windows XP up and running.

To install the Broadcom driver:

1. Open the device manager by right-clicking on the My Computer dialog, selecting Hardware, and then Device Manager
2. You should notice a bunch of little yellow alert icons. One will say something like Gigabit Ethernet. Honestly I forget exactly what I said, but it was pretty obvious.
3. Right click on the Ethernet icon and select Update Driver.
4. Select the Have Disk option, and navigate to the subfolder labeled win_xp_2k3_32 and choose the

b57win32.inf file.

Now you should be able to connect to the internet, activate windows, and download most of the rest of the drivers you need from windows update. You'll need to select the Custom option in order to get some of these updates. This should provide the drivers for your WLAN, touchpad, and other hardware.

Note that Windows Update didn't automatically suggest the webcam driver for me. In order to install it, I had to find the webcam in the Device Manager (once all the other drivers, including the audio driver — see below — were installed, it was the only devices with a yellow flag next to it), and select the Install software automatically option. That did the trick.

Next, let's enable sound. There does not appear to be a working audio driver for XP yet, but I'm holding out hope that HP will post one on its website when the company begins offering Mini-Note computers preloaded with Windows XP. I'm not going to hold my breath though. HP currently sells Mini-Notes preloaded with SUSE Enterprise, but there are no drivers or other support files on the HP web site for this configuration yet. Anyway, what you need to do is install a hotfix that will let you run the Windows Vista audio driver.

1. Run the KB888111.exe patch. If you have Windows XP SP1, you can run the kb888111xpsp1.exe file instead. Note that you should do this **before** upgrading to Windows XP SP2 or SP3. In fact, when I tried to update my system from SP1 to SP2, I wound up with an unbootable system, so if you have a Windows XP Sp1 install disc, I'd recommend skipping SP2 altogether and jumping straight ahead to SP2. You can either grab a release candidate of SP3, wait a few days for Microsoft to release it officially, or if you look around I'm sure you can find it today.
2. The file called sp38873.exe is the audio driver. Go ahead and click it and it will start to install the Vista audio drivers. Installation will fail because you're not running Windows Vista, but the installer will create a folder that contains the driver.
3. Find your sound device in the Device Manager. It should still be an unknown device with a big ole yellow flag next to it. Select update driver, choose the have disk option, and navigate to the folder where you unzipped your Vista audio drivers.

Keep in mind that this audio driver is not designed to run on Windows. And every time you boot your computer, a pop up window will alert you to this fact. Here's how to disable this pop up:

1. Type "msconfig" into the run box in the start menu.
2. Select the startup tab.
3. Uncheck the box next to smax4pnp.
4. Click OK and reboot your computer.

Finally, you can install the HP QuickLaunch buttons to add support for the Fn keys. All you have to do here is click the file called HP buttons SP32280.exe and ignore any messages that pop up during this installation.

Now everything should work properly. You'll probably want to adjust your display settings to use large or extra large fonts and large icons. The HP QuickLaunch utility also includes a Desktop Zoom utility which may help make your Mini-Note display a bit easier to see. But this computer has got a super-sharp display, so you may find that you need to tweak the default font sizes in other applications including Firefox if you want to be able to read your screen without squinting.

Using Parted Magic to create new partitions for Linux or other operating systems

While I tend to use Windows XP on a day to day basis, I wanted to make this a dual boot system so I can install Linux on a separate partition. Most Linux distributions aren't very particular about where they're installed. You can put them on a second or third partition, or even on an SD card in your card reader. But Windows likes to have the first partition all to itself. So while you may be able to use the Windows installer to set up partitions on the hard drive, I had more success installing Windows XP first, and then

using [Parted Magic](#) to resize the Windows partition and create additional partitions.

The best time to do this is right after you install Windows. Your main partition will be fairly clean which will make the resizing operation go much more quickly. We're talking about the difference between a minute or two and a half hour or more. You'll also save yourself a lot of pain and heartache if something goes wrong and you wind up wiping your Windows partition, because you won't have spent days loading and configuring all of your favorite programs yet.

I'm going to assume you're still using a USB flash drive, but you can also use Parted Magic from a CD-ROM. [Detailed instructions](#) for setting up either a flash drive or a CD-ROM are available from the Parted Magic homepage. The main difference is that if you're using a flash drive, you need to use [SYSLINUX](#) to make it bootable.

Once you've got your installation media:

1. Reboot your Mini-Note with the flash drive or CD-ROM plugged into a USB port.
2. Hit F9 and choose the device you want to boot from.
3. From the boot menu, make sure to selection option 4: Failsafe Settings
4. Wait a few minutes until you're presented with a command prompt that says "root@PartedMagic:~#"
5. Type "menu"
6. Choose Xvesa (if you had tried almost anything other than option 4 in step 3, the system would try to boot using Xorg and your display would look all funny/unusable)
7. You should now see a graphical user interface that looks a bit like this:



8. Click the little blue icon on the bottom of the screen that says "VisParted." This will bring up a partition manager
9. Your primary hard drive should be listed as /dev/sda. But if it's not, it shouldn't be too hard to find since you probably only have one 120GB hard drive connected to your PC. Note that VisParted will say your hard drive is actually closer to 112GB.
10. There should be one large partition labeled as /dev/sda1. You can right click on this and choose the resize/move option and then resize the partition either by dragging the edges or entering a value into the "new size" box.
11. Once your Windows partition is shrunk, you can either leave the rest of your hard drive unpartitioned for future use, create an ext2, ext3 or other partition for Linux, or do something else altogether.
12. Click the Apply button to execute.
13. When Parted Magic is done working its magic, you can reboot your system by clicking on the

shutdown menu at the bottom right side of your screen. If everything went properly, you should still be able to boot into Windows, but you'll find that your Windows partition is smaller.

Personally, I decided to make a 25GB Windows XP partition for files and settings, a 15GB ext2 partition for installing Ubuntu or other operating systems, and I made a third NTFS partition for storing data that will be accessible no matter which OS I use.

Posted on Sunday, April 27th, 2008, 10:54 am by [Brad Linder](#)

Tags: [hp 2133](#), [mini-note](#), [parted-magic](#), [quicklaunch](#), [syslinux](#), [vista](#), [windows xp](#)

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• *m*

This is good news. Next, please install some common software on there, and tell us how fast (or slow!) it is? I'd be interested in a typical student mix of Office, Firefox, Acrobat, and something like iTunes, all running at the same time. Thanks!

• [Brad Linder](#)

Well, right now I'm listening to streaming audio using WInamp, I'm posting a reply to your comment in Firefox, and I have Pidgin open in the background and everything seems to be working pretty well. CPU usage is hovering between 15 and 30 percent, and my memory use is under 300MB. Switching windows and tabs is not quite as quick and zippy as it would be on a more powerful computer, but it's passable.

• [Josh](#)

Thanks for documenting all this stuff Brad. It helps a lot!

Do you know if you can under or over clock the cpu, or change how much memory the onboard video uses?

• [Brad Linder](#)

I haven't gotten around to over/underclocking yet, but I'll keep you posted. The 1.2GHz processor is a bit sluggish for some tasks. But you're also lucky to get 2 hours of battery life out of the standard 3 cell battery, so I'm a bit wary to do too much overclocking. At least the computer runs at its advertised speed, which is more than I can say for some laptops *cough* Eee PC *cough*

• [Josh](#)

lol, I know it... I'm getting the 1.6Ghz model and wanted to be able to under clock to save some battery. I just read over on the mininoteuser forums that there isn't anything in the bios you can change for video or cpu. :(

Thanks again!

• *bsumpter*

Excellent writeup, Brad! This should be very helpful for those installing XP on their Mini-Notes. My Mini is working great, and I'm pretty happy with it thus far. The only issue I've had is installing the company's Nortel VPN client, but other than that it's ran everything I've thrown at it admirably.

• [Brad Linder](#)

Thanks Bsumpter, I never would have figured half of this stuff without your useful guide!

- *el_nacho*
Hi bsumpter, are you running at 1 Gig or 2 Gig RAM?
- *bsumpter*
Hello el_nacho.

2 GB of RAM here, but I'm not so sure it's needed. Even with Lotus Notes, IE, Firefox, Word, and Photoshop open at the same time I'm still not using all the RAM. It's nice to have it available - might need it someday. But if you're wondering if you should go to 2GB in your Mini-Note, I'd say it would depend on your choice of OS. Vista - I'd go 2GB. XP - 1GB is probably fine for most cases. Linux - 1GB should do fine.

- *Mikez*
One thing missing from your "You will require" section;
A computer running M\$-Windows.
Those utilities are all Windows executables and I have not yet gotten them to run under Wine.
- *Bondy_9*
Thanks for the help real good have it all working except for wireless lan that is giving me some problems. Do you have correct drivers?"
- *sam*
Hi,

I am having the same problem. Did you ever solve it? Could you share your solution if you did?

- *Oliver*
Brad, is there no way to preserve the system restore partition, i.e., just replace the larger VISTA partition with XP? While I don't think I'd ever voluntarily go back to VISTA, it might in a pinch be useful if you're on the road and the XP partition somehow becomes corrupted. Granted, I could also carry around my 1 GB USB drive to restore XP from scratch.

Anyway, I tried to leave the VISTA restore partition behind and XP installed okay, but then the machine wouldn't boot from the hard disk (always got some sort of "bad OS" error at startup). Booting from the flash drive worked, but mucking with the boot.ini didn't help.

Incidentally, when I then tried to do the XP install again with the same memory stick, the text mode option always failed with "INF file txtsetup.sif corrupt or missing, status 18" error. Bizarre. So now my machine is back to Vista factory image and I created a new XP image on my USB drive, this time with SP2 slipstreamed in. Wish me luck :)

- *Brad Linder*
I started out with a SUSE system, so I didn't have a Vista recovery partition to play with. But as for the second installation failing, I have noticed that for some reason this happens to me a lot when installing XP from a USB flash drive. Re-creating the bootable flash drive should work. It just means spending another 15-20 minutes.
- *pure*
What happened at last? any success in keeping vista partition and restoring that partition after installing XP properly
- *Wolf*
It's probably worth mentioning that if your USB stick is larger than 2GB, PeToUSB won't be able to format it. Thus the walkthrough will fail at Preparing the flash drive, Step 5.
- *Brad Linder*
Thanks for the note! Since I was using a 1GB flash drive, I didn't realize that this was a problem.
- *Wolf*
I'm looking for an alternative method right now, but first I need to figure out exactly what PeToUSB does.
- *Wolf*
I ended up using the HP USB Disk Storage Format Tool to format the 8GB USB stick with NTFS and then used USB_MultiBoot_9 to make the stick bootable and copy over the XP install files.

Currently installing XP as we speak!

Your walkthrough is an excellent resource, thanks for writing it up and posting it.

- *danran*

hmm, i'm using a kingston 4gb usb stick and petousb formatted it just fine...

- [Stuart](#)

I'm using a Samsung 2GB Mightydrive USB stick which has formatted fine and I have gone through all the steps seemingly successfully. However, when I try to boot the MiniNote I get missing file errors (error 14), the first one being \SWIN_NTS.\BT\biosinfo.inf could not be loaded. The error code is 14.

I have checked the USB stick and it appears that the files are on the device but not in the correct folders??

Any ideas?

Stuart

- [Brad Linder](#)

You might have to boot your Mini-Note with the USB stick plugged in. If this works, you'll need to go into the MSConfig menu after Windows boots and fix your boot options.

- [Stuart](#)

Hi Brad, thanks for trying to answer but I haven't got as far as you think. My fault for not being too clear in my post, so I'll try again. Sorry for the long post.

I have formatted and produced a bootable USB stick with XP but when I try to boot the Mini-Note from the USB stick I get "\SWIN_NTS.\BT\biosinfo.inf could not be loaded. The error code is 14."

I have manually copied this file into the \SWIN_NTS.\BT\ directory and I get a little further before it tells me there is another missing file.

I have rebooted my desktop XP machine and started over with the same result. I think that the "missing" files are present on the USB stick but perhaps not in the correct directories (folders). I'm not sure how this happened since I have followed your instructions to the letter (but I'm a newbie with this stuff). There is about 680MB of data on the USB stick. The only things I am unsure of are

1. Do the booksect and usb_prep8 folders need to be in the root of the C drive on my XP desktop machine ? I put them in a sub-folder.

2. Near the end of the process it prompts for some options regarding removing the virtual drive and choosing MkMigrateInf2 or MkMigrateInf (I think from memory)

I was not sure what to do here.

Aagin, any ideas would be helpful before I have to buy a USB CD Drive, which I really don't want to do

Thanks

Stuart

- [Brad Linder](#)

Hmm. I have two suggestions.

1. Try repeating all the steps over again. Sometimes you need to completely reformat the flash drive and add all of the installation files to it again. I have no idea why.

2. It's possible that you have a USB stick that you cannot boot from. I'm not sure what sets some sticks apart from others, but I do have one stick that I can't seem to mark bootable no matter how many different Windows or Linux tools I used. If you've got a different flash drive or an SD card that you can try, that may help.

- [Stuart](#)

Brad, thanks for your help. There appears to be a problem in the code of the usb_prep8.cmd I downloaded in your zip file. I found a post on

<http://www.eeguides.com/2007/11/installing-win...>

which suggests edits to some of the lines in the code. I edited the usb_prep8.cmd and hey presto, it all works. I now have a Mini-Note running XP Pro and I couldn't have done it without you!!

If you would like me to document the edits here, I will or I can email you privately

Thanks again

Stuart

Th

- *pc_mts*

Thank for this topic

- *suryadirmansyah*

would you please share your files to humyo.com ? thx

- *killshot*

somehow my usb wont get recognized by windows anymore!! i connect it and it syas "usb device found" then it says "Unknown device" ! WHAT DO I DO now!?!?

my email is xpastkillshotx@hotmail.com

- *Brad Linder*

Try rebooting your PC with the USB flash drive plugged in? Some computers only recognize a USB device if it's plugged in during startup. You could also click on the unknown device in the device manager and see if you can find new drivers on the internet.

- *killshot*

ok i just tried booting with the usb plugged in but still wont get recognized. I can see the drive in the bios but not in windows and doesnt have a drive letter either as if wasnt connected

- *killshot*

is there some way to reformat the drive in bios or some way?

- *killshot*

Ok just found out i didnt have a usb flash drive problem at all.....my problem is that windows wont read any USB devices at all. Gonna have to do some researching ^_^

- *Brad Linder*

Good luck!

- *Domiino*

My Asus eee PC 900 can't find the hal.dll file, and I have done it exactly as it was written!

What can I do?

- *Bas Rave*

ASMS Problem during Xp installation. Cannot find ASMS error message.

I've solved the problem by deleting the I386 folder on USB stick and copy the I386 folder from Xp cdrom to USB stick, reboot PC and continue installation.

It worked on my Acer Aspire One

- *jonathan*

will this work if i tried installing it on my dell latitude d630 laptop?

- *jesus*

Will this Work if i pointed to the iso i used and created from nlite i had on my desktop seems to be stuck in the :Copying custom files and win....xp ..ect

- *lohoz*

Hi everyone who has pobelms with the application and booting from the usb stick i currently have an hp mini note and i have used this application to install xp onto my eee pc with linux as defalt and it works great for those who has poblems go to this website which has more detailed information [hi brad i am not stealing your traffic i just want them to know more about this application and please dont delete the link thanks also there are pictures for the xp to usb coping method]

- *lohoz*

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<http://www.eeeguides.com/2007/11/installing-win...>

- *Sbusiso*
Iam having a problem to linstall my note book intel ataom N270,Iam un able to install via USB DRIVE when installing it keep on saying that the I must make sure that the SCSI IS PROPERLY TERMINATED. I have being spending sleepless night but no solution to this,please help me
- *rain_king*
Hello. I am about to receive a HP 2133 with Suse. I have been told that 400 Mb of the HD is a recovery Suse partition. I would like to follow the procedure of installing Win XP but leaving this Suse partition in case I would loke to install it again. how can I manage to do taht and not having any problem with bootable win xp start?
- [Brad Linder](#)
I was unable to discover a way to install Windows without wiping that partition. But if you contact HP support and ask for a SUSE recovery disc, they'll ship one to you.
- *Hussain*
how to download USB_prep8 and Bootsect files
- [Janssen](#)
nice tutorial.
thanks for sharing.
- *sam*
Great instructions. Everything works except wifi. Did you ever get it to work?
- *sarfraz*
thanx alotamazing instructionsmy laptop is up and runningur awesum man
- *Rohan D. Sankhe*
Brad....U added 2 d fun of having a Netbook which is so light in weight, well built and works like a charm....wanted to install Windows since the time I bought it, but after going through umpteen no. of walkthroughs which dealt with "booting Windows from pen drive" and not INSTALLING it.....I came across your article....went through it....and installed Windows easily....Thankyou so much :)
- *Jesper*
If you can't create a virtual drive, make sure that there is about 1 gig of free harddisk space...
- *No Problemos*
Thanks Jesper. I just had this problem.. It's time to clean up my hard drive :)
- *ART*
i just wana thank you and I appreciate your desire to help. it helps me alot and keep my job:)). I was able to install windows xp on MSI mini note U100 using usb.
Thanks a lot!
- yishrael*
- *Graham*
This all sounds just great. Personally the HP2133 I had froze when I attempted to run a Suse application for installing software. I turned it off and subsequently it kept reporting BIOS errors and would not boot beyond the linux shell. Pressing F9 on the F.02 bios reveals only two boot options harddrive or network even with a bootable USB stick plugged in. I had down loaded the latest Bios F.05 from the HP website and created a bootable USB which boots fine on an IBM T41. Problem if your BIOS doesn't support USB boot then how do you update the BIOS without a working OS or opening up the case to replace the HDD? I am interested to know which BIOS your using?
- *banterp*
the file to prepare the flash drive is not avalable... it says it has already reached download limit...
- [Brad Linder](#)
Thanks for letting me know. It looks like we hit the Divshare download limits so I moved the files to MegaUpload.
- *basmond*
Hi Brad!

I'm writing regarding point 9.10 of the "Installing XP on the Mini-Note" chapter, as this is where I got stuck. It says:

"# Now you can (somewhat) safely edit the boot.ini file, changing the partition number or other settings to more closely resemble the one I listed above. Save your file, and hopefully you'll be able to reboot without your USB stick."

I tried all possible values in the boot.ini file (including the most common one "multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS="Windows xp" /FASTDETECT", I have one drive with one partition on it) and my system is still unable to start without usb stick plugged in. I installed windows recovery console and that added another line in the boot.ini file on my hard drive but it made no difference in booting.

Because the system is able to start from the usb stick I then changed one line in the boot.ini file that is on the stick, from: multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(1)partition(1) to: multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1), hoping that this would make the system start from the hard drive. But it didn't and resulted in an error saying about a missing or corrupted hal.dll file (I did format the hard drive as per guidelines).

Have you got any idea what I could do yet to make the system start as changing boot.ini on the hard drive does not make any difference?

- *Emil B.*
I have the same problem ... had you managed to sort it out ? reply pls
- *basmond*
Yes, I said f*** it, bought a usb dvd-rom on ebay and forgot about this whole windoze-on-a-stick farse. Saves a lot of time and is much less frustrating. Hope it helps :-)
- *Raul*
I have the same problem. I did all the steps but i can only login with the usb plugged? Any suggestions?
- *rollstwenties*
When you boot, goto the C: drive (make sure see hidden files is on) DELETE Boot.ini. Windows doesn't need. it Reboot with the stick removed. You might see a little flash in the corner of the screen saying something like invalid boot.ini, but windows rights itself automatically and finds where it is installed on its own.
- *Cosme Marley*
Very Nice Method. Thanks for posting.
- *Jeff*
Nice tip. I ended up with a primary drive E: somehow which isn't going to work. Going to see if I can do a repair install from the flash drive? (I've already adjusted the registry)
- *hi*
ok, great,, but do you have a simpler method, 15-20 min to prepare a usb stick in 2008 is somewhat a bit overkill, I can also rewrite the same things I saw 2004. So, how do you install windows XP from a USB stick, I have an iso image but need the computer to see it as a CD, an installation CD for XP.
I just wonder how many times the same text is rewritten over and over again on internet....
- *villy*
is it okay to use windows service pack 3 for usb flashdrive installer? because im having a problem when im already installing windows xp in my mini-note. when im on the setup, the xp installer cannot detect the hard drive of my mini-note.
- *pippals*
i want install window XP in hard disk by using pan drive.
as cd player of my laptop is not working.
plz solve my problem
- *agnisor*

I have tried to install XP pro on an Asus EEE 1000h (Linux preinstalled) using a USB stick (the way described above). At my attempt to boot from the USB stick I get the error message: "Reboot and select proper boot device or insert boot media in selected boot device and press a key". I tried the method twice with different USB sticks, both with the same discouraging results. I guess the problem is that the bootability of the USB stick is limited to a DOS/Windows context and therefore does not work on a system with preinstalled Linux. I guess I would need to prepare a USB stick in a Linux way. Advice very wellcome.

- *phreaker18*

PreToUSB doesnt recognize my 2 GB Kingston Pen drive nr my 2 GB Transcend one.. what do i do ... please help me !!

- *Sergio*

Wow! Thanks for a great tutorial! I only realized after the fact, but the boot.ini file would probably auto fix itself if you remember to unmount the drive before pressing the button.

- [*Lgeor*](#)

Everything is fine but when I try to install xp on my mini it doesn't see any hard drive at all.

Probably it's something about sata drivers.

But where can i Find them???

- *Mark17022*

I have the same problem with XP nit seeing the hard drive during install. Anyone find how to get around this????

- [*Khwaantai*](#)

Thanks a lot for this information. I tried this method and now have installed xp into a mini-note that is without cd-rom.

- *govind*

i install xp with usb stick. but it asked product key. i entered key. but it shows it is invalid.what i do

- *Peter*

This is very good, I done all you said and it works, thank God :D, also, for those who have mini note 2133 with Linux Novel, please also download a Graphics patch from HP, so you can reduce your graphics to 1024x600(it looks mighty beter and you can see the run box :D), thx for making these steps dude :D

- *Peter*

Just 1 question, how do I install office on HP mini?I have the cd, but, lol, do I doit the same way or?

- *nick*

copy the CD on USB stick or via network drive

- *nonamewhatsoever*

Brad,

Thank you very much! Installed WinXP onto Sylvania g netbook meso. Funny, one WinXP Pro disk gave blue screen, another worked fine. Overall, very nice and simple tutorial.

- *Mark17022*

Has anyone found a way to get around XP not reconizing the hard drive during setup? I am trying xp SP3 also

- *Mitch*

Yes, you must first enter BIOS and go to SATA config, and set it to "compatibility" mode. Then it'll recognize the hard drive. I used this with SP3.

- *nick*

no disk.

"compatibility" mode doesnt work eigher :(

- *tumo*

BIOS > SATA native mode > DISABLE. Works fine with XP

- *Anon*

ty so much man for this tutorial! mucho help :D:D

Just a quick one for all those with the biosinfo not being found... edit the prep8.cmd with notepad and replace the following:

Line 519 replace :

```
xcopy %xpsource%\!xpdir!\!btfile! %tmpdrive%\%btdir% /i /k /y /h
par
xcopy %xpsource%\%xpdir%\!btfile! %tmpdrive%\%btdir% /i /k /y /h
```

Line 521, replace :

```
xcopy %xpsource%\!xpdir!\!btfile! %tmpdrive%\%btdir% /i /k /y /h | tee.bat -a usb_prep.log
par
xcopy %xpsource%\%xpdir%\!btfile! %tmpdrive%\%btdir% /i /k /y /h | tee.bat -a usb_prep.log
```

Lige 525, replace :

```
copy /y %xpsource%\!xpdir%\%%H %tmpdrive%\%btdir%\%%I
par
copy /y %xpsource%\%xpdir%\%%H %tmpdrive%\%btdir%\%%I
```

Line 527, replace :

```
copy /y %xpsource%\!xpdir%\%%H %tmpdrive%\%btdir%\%%I | tee.bat -a usb_prep.log
par
copy /y %xpsource%\%xpdir%\%%H %tmpdrive%\%btdir%\%%I | tee.bat -a usb_prep.log
```

- *gazzawazza*

Thanks for the guide it eventually worked for me,my 1gb pen drive wasn't compatible,so i bought a cheap 1gb Maxell the next day and things went smoothly,

I used xp pro sp3 cd

- *Navid*

Brad,I got my HP mini the other day and as haven't used Linux before want to change it to XP.I have been reading your guide,which have to say is very good,still have got few questions,which if you or anybody else can help would be great.

1.as I would need to put XP c/w SP2 on USB how do I do this?you have said how to prepare the usb memory stick and everything,but I am still not sure if you can help, please :) what is not clear for me is,how the windows will end up on memory stick?does it come from the computer I am using???if you can clarify,cheers.

- *swisster*

you need a copy first on a CD or ISO

- *a*

Amazing articles...it worked step by step with 4GB usb drive. Thanks a lot.

- *Toni*

Hi,

I have MSI u90 netbook and i need to install windows xp. Will this work for me?

Or, if it doesn't any suggestion?

I appreciate your help.

- [Brad Linder](#)

These instructions were written specifically for installing Windows XP on an HP 2133 Mini-Note computer. Many users have found them helpful for loading Windows XP on other hardware, but I can't make any promises.

- *Navid*

Brad,can you shed any light on my questions?I don't get how to put windows onto the memory stick?!also the CD I have doesn't have SP2,how can I do it?cheers.

Brad,I got my HP mini the other day and as haven't used Linux before want to change it to XP.I

have been reading your guide, which has to say is very good, still have got few questions, which if you or anybody else can help would be great.

1. as I would need to put XP c/w SP2 on USB how do I do this? you have said how to prepare the usb memory stick and everything, but I am still not sure if you can help, please :) what is not clear for me is, how the windows will end up on memory stick? does it come from the computer I am using??? if you can clarify, cheers.

- [Brad Linder](#)

Just make sure there's a Windows XP installation disk in your CD-ROM drive when you follow these instructions. When you get to step 12, enter the drive letter of your CD-ROM. The first set of instructions are meant to be carried out on a PC that has an optical disk drive like a desktop PC or a full sized notebook.

- [Navid](#)

Hi again. thanks for the info. with regards to windows cd & SP2, do I need to integrate SP2 into the copy of my windows on my hard drive?

- [Navid](#)

Brad, ignore my earlier questions, now I am using my mini 2133 with XP thanks to your help :)

- [Rob](#)

Hi,

I am trying to install XP from my USB stick but like some of the other posts above it won't detect my HDD when trying to partition. I have set the SATA to compatible in the BIOS but this doesn't solve the problem. Where can I get the SATA drivers for the 2133?

Thanks.

- [Yubtzock](#)

I'm going to try it with sata on native and drivers from via website (viaarena). AHCI driver is in RAID pack (8237). Drivers integrated with nLite - this tool is very nice. I'll try to post if it works or not.

well... for the problem of hal.dll after first part of installation if the disk wasn't fully formatted: just run recovery console type 'map' and write down the name of device and Harddisk number where your xp is installed (newly created partition).

Should be sth like this:

\Device\Harddisk1\Partition2 or similar (you will know which one if you select significant disk space when you create partition for XP)

also check the drive letter (you should be in C: but if not remember this one (mine was D:))

Now take the usb stick out (note: when it's not in use - turn off mininote or sth) plug it in to your regular pc/lap and edit BOOT.INI (make back up first!)

change the lines with the \Device\sth to the right ones, and make sure the drive letter is proper (it says C: but if you have got mininote with Vista Recovery partition, the actual C: is assigned to this recovery and you need to change it to D: (e.x. mine) or whatever your windows partition letter is)

Now save and put the usb stick back to mininote. Restart. You should be able to run GUI setup without any "missing hal.dll or sth else" errors.

hooray i saved the vista recovery (or i hope so ;))

strange... resolution seems to be set totally wrong... can't see thing - make sure you had set as much as you could in the "Unattended" mode during "nLite" step so you don't have to guess where to click, because most of the screen is outside the visible area :D

or try including graphic drivers to your XP installation with nLite, but... good luck with it ;)

sorry for the messy post but... good advise: you can try adding all drivers to installation disk as additional files or as integration at the end of nLite wizard, but remember - you will need a lot (3-4GB?) of disk space if you want to make all steps from the beginning of this tutorial to the very end without deleting .ISOs, temp images, unpacked drivers, and so on. I mean on your regular pc/lap

What i cant fix, is this stupid problem with the need to boot from gui mode from usb stick... boot.ini which i try to edit is still on the C:, and even editing it via sysdm.cpl it still tries to change the boot.ini on hp_recovery!

Above seems to be fixed - for me the proper selection is
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(2)\WINDOWS
it is since my XP is on second partition (huh... i know it should be obvious but.. eh... its 3 a.m. here and still lots to do :D)
there is one thing i need to check about this... remove usb stick :)

oh... i suppose i've messed up the Vista boot.ini and in the end I won't be able to boot up the hp_recovery... May some good soul send me boot.ini from hp_recovery (jabcok_jabcok(put_at_here)wp(put_dot_here)pl) or post it under this great tutorial.

XP is loading while i'm writing this.. wait. Logged in. Man its on! Just THAT fast.

Time for drivers!

whoa takes a while. Especially (!) camera firmware flashing and drivers. Don't ask me why...

Done. Everything works.

Thanks for this tutorial! Thanks for hints from these comments and thanks for help to my friend mazzi. Nice work ppl!

p.s. - about the hp_recovery - well... i think it might run even without this particular boot.ini but if someone have a chance to check it, please give me info if its needed or not because i'll try to install Vista on second partition soon (for comparison) so I hope not to spend yet another 8 hours trying to make it work.

- [R](#)
I really tried the method above without success. Fortunately, I have found the following link <http://pcduniya.com/forums/viewtopic.php?f=31&t=87> and use the file that they recommended. Pretty more simple and absolutely effective
- [j](#)
Wow, thanx a lot. I'm really glad I found this, after my first attempt to install XP on the mini failed. This tut and the software worked just fine for me. I'm a bit happier again. ;) (Oh and on hp2133guide.com you can find some patch for the sound drivers etc.)
- [semishde](#)
Just wanted to say thanks for this! Was cursing HP, SUSE Enterprise and all their ancestors when my mini note first arrived, but now have it all set up and working with XP and can start enjoying the thing!
- [Villeee](#)
Windows XP Pro SP3 does not recognize the SATA disk but SP2 does. So I recommend to try SP2 if you have problems installing Windows XP when the setup does not found the SATA disk.

I spent almost a whole day trying everything possible to get SP3 installed. SP2 worked immediately. What a waste of time...

- *Ruslan*

Thanks for documenting all this stuff!
From one more HP mini-note user

You've did great job

- *Asylum*

Thanks bro this avoided me from buying a external dvd. the instructions were awesome!

- *Richard*

Thankyou Thankyou Thankyou this is excelent took me a few attempts to get it working proper but just excelent exactly what i wanted to do so again thankyou!

- *anon*

You may want to add that installing sp3 on the 2133 is nigh impossible due to a lack of storage drivers - install sp2 and then update to sp3.

Also, in regards to booting to Parted Magic, you might want to mention unetbootin, which runs on all platforms. If you don't know what it does yet I highly recommend just using that instead of messing around with sysconfig...

- *Biju*

thank for u r kind knowlodge
i m very thankful to u

Biju

- *Berin*

Brad thank you for this wonderfull guide.

I have one problem and I'm getting crazy because of it, I hope someone can help me.

When I want to prepare my USB I can't get passed step 8. When I type in "bootsect.exe /nt52 E:" I get the folowing message: "bootsect.exe is not being recognized as a internal or external command, programm or batchfile

I have tried this with different USB-sticks and on different laptops or desktops.

Greetings

Berin

- *Morteza*

When i come to the part when i have to delete partitions and install XP, i am a little unsure of what i should delete and what i shouldn't... i deleted all partitions on the HDD, there is only my kingston 2 GB flash device left as a partition and another partition thats is BIOS that tells me its risky to delete it because its a system thingy and will be needed for the computer hardwares to work properly... do i have to delete these too or is ok like i have done?

- *Mathew Austin*

Solved a customer's problem with his ODD by following this.

Epic instructions are epic. You're a lifesaver.

- *nitsuas*

this is great! but i'm stuck trying to get XP on my flash drive, i get to the last step whenyou need to select the diferent numbers to set the source and drive letter and such. when i type number 1 and hit enter it says i need to enter a source drive. i don't know what command to type to to set it to my cd drive.

thanks for your help

- [*gochi*](#)

I got problem while installing i searched in the Google and i found your post is better then any one thanks for your beautiful post.

- *Joel*

Great post! Thanks. Worked perfectly for me in making a XP install USB. I tried another one with BartPE first... didn't work.

The tip about "Compatibility Mode" for the SATA setup solved my problem of missing drive in the list as well. Thanks!

- *Chad*

When I go to install XP, i get an error that says isStor.sys is missing. Then reboots. Anyone else have this issue? And how did you fix itt?

Thanks

- *Chad*

I tried this many times, after first reboot it loads up again and says I have a missing or corrupt hal.dll file. I tried two copies of XP, so its obviously not my copies.

- *Dennis*

I've tried to use this method for installing xp on my mini note but I always got stuck..

I've made the usb stick, and I can boot from the usb stick and when I first press second option when booting from the usb everythings goes fine but when i have to reboot after the first part of the installation their is a problem because I press the number 1 and then my screen turns black and nothing happens anymore.

What am I doing wrong? Could it be because I kept my Vista and Recovery on the disk?

I've already tried it a couple of times with two different XP versions (home oem, and XP pro) and I've had to times the same result..

So please help me because running vista on the mininote is not really great.. :-s

- *bigpro*

Hi everybody, great guide!!! may boot.ini file is this:

```
[boot loader]
timeout=30
default=multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS
[operating systems]
```

```
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS="Microsoft Windows XP Professional"
/noexecute=option /fastdetect
```

```
multi(0)disk(0)rdisk(0)partition(1)\WINDOWS="USB Repair NOT to start Microsoft XP
Professional" /noexecute=option /fastdetect
```

I want boot from hd, how i have to change boot.ini file? can you please help me?

- *Justin*

I have a stupid problem, I'm trying to do this on Vista.

I follow all the steps, but if I run the first .cmd file as normal PEtoUSB does not detect my flash drive. If I run it as an administrator, PEtoUSB does not launch.

If I run the cmd file and then run PEtoUSB manually, it finds the drive and I can do all the steps in

PEtoUSB, but when I try and do step four in the console window I get this:

'VDK.EXE' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

'VDK.EXE' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

'vdk.exe' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

'vdk.exe' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

'vdk.exe' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

'vdk.exe' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

Temporary Virtual Drive O: Created, lets Format it

Specified drive does not exist.

TEMPDRIVE O: Not Formatted - Program will be Ended

Closing Existing Virtual Drives if any

'VDK.EXE' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

'vdk.exe' is not recognized as an internal or external command,
operable program or batch file.

Existing Virtual Drives if any are Closed

I know I shouldn't be running PEtoUSB Manually, but it's the only way I can get it to work.

- *rollstwenties*

Don't know if this was answered but this is the solution: Rightclick petousb.exe and go to properties here go to the compatibility tab and chose compatibility mode and run as WIn xp sp2, and check run as administrator..after this just make sure your usb stick is formatted as fat16. Then run the usb_prep. I got the info from here: <http://www.ubcd4win.com/forum/lofiversion/index...> worked great.

- *rollstwenties*

oh, and the vdk part. If you read the error message, it has a link to the vdk (virtual disk driver). Only works in 32 bit OS though. Fortunately, I have a machine with Vista 32 on it.

- *McSalds*

This is great! Thank you!!!!!!

- *jan*

Thanks for the very good tutorial. Wonder if I can do the same with Win 7 Beta.

- *Tom*

hi,
thanks for your detailed description. was very helpful for us.
best regards from germany
tom

- *Ben*

I have similar problems with the boot.ini file. Is there some way of finding out the partition, disk, rdisk values etc for my computer? My usb disk is labelled as the c: drive and my hard disk as the d: drive. Would this affect it? Any help would be much appreciated as i'm soooo close now.

- *teodore*

Thank you mate. Installation gone just perfect on a LG X110 netbook! Your instructions were really really really simple and helpful!

Oh/ And thanks God I had kept Windows drivers, bloody LG has zero (0) support on its site.. :(

- *Ricardo*

Dear Brad:

thank you very much for the time and effort place on this. It was the perfect help for me.

- *Yin Marady*

When I run USB_prep8 and it pops up a Windows console window. Then I press any key to continue and a PeToUSB window will open and I can not find my flash drive in the destination selection.

- *Dennis*

Tks for your doc to install xp into a netbook without CD-rom drive, after I follow the step to create a USB xp installation drive and start to install, an error message display as "GRUS Loading stage 1.5 GRUB loading, please wait.. Error17" . what does it means and what I need to do? Tks for your advice .

Fr: Dennis

- *Skripatch*

thank you for this great article, i went through your website and clicked all the sponsored link i found))

Thanks!

- [Brad Linder](#)

Please don't do that. It's called click fraud and it does more harm than good. If you find a link that you're actually interested in, that's one thing. But you shouldn't click links just because you think it'll help a blogger get paid. It could actually have the reverse effect as advertisers penalize click fraud pretty severely.

- *Michael*

How come my boot drive is now D: ?

I tried changing it based on Microsoft instructions and broke it, so I'll start again (even last known good didn't fix it.)

Any ideas how to build my 2133 with C: as the boot drive letter? Some software still doesn't install properly if C: isn't the boot disk

- *Nick*

I had this problem and broke my installation following the Microsoft fix. Any ideas as yet?

- *Nick*

It does actually say in the command window; the last message during the process of setting up the bootable USB to quit out of the install by pressing F3 once you have created the primary partition. Works great.

- *millie*

where is the bootsect?

- *AS (PL)*

All is OK ... I install it on two 2133 .. and Brcko pack OSX Leoprud for Xp :-) ... looks awensome but i must off some details .. grahic card is so poor :- (

- *Lou*

would this same procedure work with an sd memory card?

- *AS*

Hi, quick question -- I already have a dual-boot system with XP and Ubuntu, with another partition for shared files. I'm now looking to re-install XP (from a USB stick) and retaining Ubuntu. Would this method work, with the Linux partition still being around? Or would I have to wipe everything clean and start anew?

Thanks in advance.

- [nerdboy](#)

A+ write up.

- *luca*
im having problems in changing xp setup source path, it says, its currently none ([]) and when i press 1 and then enter, it says, please give the location to your windows xp setup source files 'CSCRIPT.EXE' is not recognised as an internal or external command, operable program or batch file. pls help im stuck in usbprep.
- *Moe*
I have the same problem, any solution ??
- *scotty*
I am about to get a mini note to take to Iraq with me while im away. i have heard the mininote can suffer under vista. As i am a complete novice when it comes to computers this guide is a gem. You truly are a legend Brad and many many thanks, ill look forward to giving it a try.....cheers
- *LiX*
I get a "FormatEx Error[11] when the format process finishes on Windows XP, using a TDK 16GB TRANS-IT USB Flash Drive. Any idea? I want it to boot as Windows on MSI Wind U100 to install Mac OS X 10.5 on it (actually, I have installed it, but now Windows does not boot and I must repair it without external DVD drive).

Thanks.

- *LiX*
I get this error at the end of step 4:

Failed to open file 'tempimage.img'.
The system cannot find the file specified.
Input correct patch:

Note: I am using Windows XP Pro over VMWare Fusion 2.0.2 over Mac OS X 10.5.6.

Any idea how to fix it? Thanks.

- *NICK*
WHEN I GET TO TE MESSAGE ABOUT MIGRATE.INF, DO I AGREE TO CHANGE MIGRATE.INF OR NOT?
- *Basil*
Hi Bard,

I am stuck o0n step 7 in the "Preparing the flash drive" section. I don't seem to have a "Bootsect.exe" file on my system so cannot do step 8. Can you give some more details here?

Thanks

Basil

- *jacob*
everything was fine till the point where it start coping windows file just after formatting the partition. it came u with the same problem value 0biniflik4.cmd..... i don't know what i've done wrong with the process or any missing files i left cz it seems like it can't find loding the file. anybody pls help me.
- *Wattster*
Followed all instructions step-by-step. I now have a HP Mini-Note 2133 running Windows XP (with SP3). Works wirelessly with everything functioning.
Thank you so much for your in-depth guide.

Also, for anyone attempting this and from previous comments in this forum, there are now a full set of drivers on the HP website for this notebook. See here:-

<http://h20000.www2.hp.com/bizsupport/TechSupport...>

- *Wattster*

Oh, BTW, I had the same problem with booting from the hard-drive rather than the USB drive after installation in that the notebook would not recognise the hard drive so followed the earlier post by "rollstwenties" and just deleted the BOOT.ini file from the hard drive then rebooted without the USB drive. Perfecto!

Also thanks to everyones comments which also helped a lot.

- *MiStr*

Super super super - you are the best ! It work !

- *Ryan*

Hi, excellent writeup worked fine except i would like to add a few things.

Lot's of mini notes are beign shipped with this GRUB 17 loader problem, I do not know how to fix it nor do i care as I am not a fan of linux anyway.

So use the above method to install your XP cd onto your USB pen.

A few pointers that would have helped me are these.

When you start this method to install XP make sure the first thing you do is set in the BIOS <f10> to boot from USB drive as default 1, you will get HAL errors if you do not do this, also set in the bios SATA composite rather than native, you can use 4GB USB memory sticks, I used a 4gb Sandisk Cruzer which is a very popular one and fast, just use the PE tool above to do the biz.

The Mini Note comes with 1gb ram and 120gb hdd, runs Windows XP perfect, Office 2003 installs a dream, to remove the boot message about choose operating system it's easy, just load up windows XP, right click on "my computer" choose properties and select the "advanced" tab up the top, click on startup and recover settings, then remove the tick in "time to display list of operating sytems" All done.

So to sum up nake sure bios is set correctly, build USB pen drive you can use 4gb, install XP as per instructions above, reboot after install and choose GUI boot not txt boot, then you good to go, download the drivers from HP website.

- *Maher*

thanks very much for your help and the effort u put into this. it is much explained and very easy to follow.

most appreciated.

- *Steve*

Hi, Brad,

I got part way through installing and then when XP ask me for the serial i realised i had lost it, i then decided that i would my other CD as i had the serial handy.

When trying to re do the steps i got back to the install and it try to continue, how would i go about formating the hp mini to start again?

Thanks!

- *Philip*

I just follow the steps and get it done easily.

Thank you so much!!!

- *Markk*

Brad, excellent info. One question...

I have an Asus Eee 900 with Linux, 512 RAM and 4Gb hard drive. Will all this procedure work for this model?

Thanks

- *Simon*

Thanx a lot :)

But i have one problem...

I can only start the windows with my usb key plugged in the notebook... If i unplug it and restart, all i see is just black screen. I think that problem maight be in Boot.ini file. Does anyone know what shall I do?

- *Peter*

I tried to do something similar on a P3 VAIO sub-notebook. It did not have the option to boot from USB. Is your method here just for the HP mini note, or is there a means to get an older machine to boot from USB by something on the USB?

- *BLUESON*

WHERE EXACTLY IN AN INSTALLED WINDOWS BUILD IS THE FOLDER DESCRIBED ABOVE UNDER SECTION > Preparing the flash drive < > step7. & 8.< /

" Find your Bootsect folder (if you're not used to DOS commands, you can type "dir" to list directories and files, type "cd foldername" to navigate to a folder name - called foldername in this example, and if there's a long folder name you can save time by typing the "cd" and just the first few letters and then hitting the Tab key to fill in the rest of the name).

Once you're in the Bootsect folder, type "bootsect.exe /nt52 g:" if "g" is the letter assigned to your flash drive. If it's E, then change the letter to e. If it's Z, make it z. Get it?"

NO , I Don't > where is the Bootsect folder ? is it on the Windows Install disk ? or in a installed Windows build ? I searched for " bootsect.exe " and it was not in Windows .

- *pmhoa*

hey after i choose USB Flash Memory 5.00 from boot device menu i get this

NTLDR is missing

Press any key to restart

can you please help me with this

- *jordi*

i love you =P

- *sam*

Thanks man...it was off great help...cheers

- *djdams*

Thanks man :) It works great for me !

You have done nice job here.

My acer aspire one is ready for a new life now !

- *Mike Nolley*

You helped immensely in unbricking my Toshiba laptop. I deleted a Ubuntu partition, and thereafter Grub gave "error 17". And then the CD-ROM drive wouldn't work, leaving me with USB and network booting. I followed your instructions and hoped to use recovery console, but in the end it wasn't needed. The XP image on the USB stick booted into the copy of Windows I already had. Then I just used the program MBRfix in a command prompt, and my problems were over. Thanks again!

- *Marisa*

Hi!

This worked perfectly, but I still have an issue with my USB port. Windows doesn't start if ANY pen is plugged in... It can be an empty pen drive, but the usb port MUST be with a pen plugged in... otherwise it gives me a blue screen and windows doesn't starts...

In BIOS I've even disabled the boot from usb, but the error remains...

Can you help me please???

Kind regards

Marisa

- *JK*

After I finished make the bootable usb stick (step1-15) everything is done fine.

I try to install in my minibook - kohjinsha sc3, I choose - 2. text only mode but the screen show "NTLDR is missing, press any key to restart"

Please help me.

Best regards,

- *David*

Keep getting an error:

The following value in the .SIF file used by Setup is corrupted or missing:

Value 0 on the line in section [SourceDisksFiles] with the key "binifix4.cmd."

- *zulib*

Hi.. there.. I have tried to format my USB Flash drive (step 4)....

but in the PeToUSB window my USB flash did not appear eventhough I clicked refresh button many times. Please help...

- *Luke*

PLEASE HELP! I want to install Win XP (Pro, SP2, OEM) on my Mini 2140. The USB-Stick may be prepared correctly, including SP3. I disabled "SATA Native Mode" in my BIOS, otherwise The XP-Setup doesn't find any HD.

The XP-Setup tells me that the installation data can't be loaded.

I tried all the steps three times - what should I do?

Thanks

- *kate*

I have no problems with preparing the usb, but very soon after the windows setup begins I keep getting the blue screen with critical error and the setup doesn't continue

anyone knows solution to this???

I'd be soooo grateful :-)

- *kate*

there are to things that I think might be important:

1. in usb_prep8 there is choice between usb-stick and usb-harddisk (option 0). I tried both options, my HP always detects it as USB-harddisk though.

2. During copying the files, i get informaton, that file "bootfont.inf" wasn't copied. I wanted to copy it manually, but there's no such file on my XP installation CD.

I only have one more idea - that my flashdisk isn't working properly, I'll try with another one. If that doesn't work, I have really no idea what to do :(

- *Marinko*

It works just fine thanks a lot!

- *Christian*

THANKS ... this was the 4th try after many other techniques, and this one was the one that worked, thanks

- *Sam*

Wow! awesome guide, just what I was looking for and painlessly quick :D

Thanks

Sam

- *geo*

Hi,

I followed the instructions in 'Preparing the flash drive' and 'Installing XP on the Mini-Note' to make a bootable installation disk for a Samsung NC20 (12" Netbook with VIA Nano processor). I used the CD drive of another machine to copy the recovery CD from Samsung. It worked great. Fortunately I used a smaller size partition for Windoze and left the rest of the disk free. The files

from driver DVD (not a CD) from Samsung was copied to a USB stick. It had a bloated driver installer with some junk software (Macafee, UCam etc, recovery program). I opted out those and could install the rest. Now comes installing Linux. I wished to try Gentoo this time. UNetBooin running on Windoze, is a real time saver to make bootable USB installatiion disk for many Linux distros. It is pretty straight forward - download UNetBootin from Sourceforge, select the distro from net or a downloaded ISO image, insert USB stick and start. In 5 minutes I got to try different distributions. But no luck after spending a night with Gentoo. That is the maximum I could patiently spend to get it working. Ubuntu Jaunty and Ubuntu Netbook Remix did not install out of the box for me. I did not spend much time. Finally my tried and tested Ubuntu Hardy Heron (8.04LTS) booted and detected my WLAN card. Brilliant! Now I am going to install it. Hope it goes well. So I am skipping PartMagic portion.

Sad thing is that I wasted a little too much time trying other ways before reaching here. So I am leaving some keywords here for other users to reach here.

Thanks a lot Brad Linder,
geo

- *Shone*

I used just the part for creating the boot/install stick and it works great. Tnx for the guide, this little thing finally works as it should :))

- *luisold*

You are the man, I don't have words to express my gratitude.
Thanks a lot is what can I say.

- *chady*

has anyone tried installing a vortex xp cd with SP3?

btw, if i can borrow an external usb dvd drive, can i use it instead and run the reinstalling of windows xp pro with SP3 with no problems?
thanks man

link...

<http://vista3g.vortex-eg.com/index.php>

<http://vista3g.vortex-eg.com/download.php>

- *Mini 2133 Albania*

It works all perfect and thanx 4 the post! The only problem I am getting, is to boot from the hard disk directly without the USB Stick. I tried everything is written here and nothing yet. But I installed some of my favorite apps (DAW programs) and my Mini 2133 is much much better with XP then with Vista. So thanx once again!

- *Marcello*

Thanks, works great! Saved me alot of time!

- *[Rey](#)*

Do this work with windows 2000 too???

- *Garrett*

YOU ARE THE BIGGEST HELP I COULD FIND.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THIS TUTORIAL

my hp+compaq notebook had a malfuction one night and would not boot after that. there is no disk drives on it so i had to find help this way

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

- *David*

Thanks a lot for this post i was going around the 6th hour trying to make the USB flshdrive to boot.
for win XP thnx a lot

- *kld*

Great build, using it about a year:

<http://depositfiles.com/ru/files/kcnd005tt>

- Best Windows XP usb flash edition 2009.

- *dave*

Has anyone encountered the problem where after installing XP, the laptop reports as running "on ac power" even when it's running on batteries, and you can't see a meter to tell how much battery life remains?

- *wideko*

It's a good description of what to do. I have got as far as preparing the USB-stick and in my case it will be the Chinese version of WinXP. My wife is Chinese and for a lot of applications she want to use the EEEPC 1000HE have to run from the Chinese XP.

One thing is concerning me: You write that the intallation will start with formatting the disk. That's something I'm sure I don't like.

At another PC it was possible to install WinXP-CN next to WinXP-NL on a seperate partition.

Just try to install - without format - and look what will happen???

What is your opinion??

- *Mani_us*

Hi

I am having problem when I try to install XP Prof with USB.

I was able to make the USB stick and boot my HP Mini 2140 but it does recognize my SATA HDD.

I checked on HP site and downloaded the drivers on another USB stick and hot F6 for additional driver option during the install startup but it always look for disk in A: drive and does not read my other USB stick for the drivers.

Any ideas?

Thanks

- *AJ*

Hi,

the command "bootsect.exe /nt52 g:" isn't working in DOS. I am getting a message that bootsect is not a recognized internal or external command. What do I do now?

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