

Windows XP Professional

Mega Guide

Prepare With Confidence

This PrepLogic Mega Guide was written by certified subject matter experts and published authors to provide you accurate, in-depth exam coverage. All exam objectives are covered in detail, giving you the knowledge and confidence you need to pass your exam.

**PrepLogic***Be Prepared. Be Confident. Get Certified.*

Installing Windows XP Professional

Requirements

XP Hardware Requirements		
Component	Windows XP Home Edition	Windows XP Professional
Processors	1	1 or 2
Minimum CPU Speed	233 Megahertz (MHz)	233 MHz
Recommended CPU	300 MHz	300 MHz
Minimum RAM	64 Megabytes (MB)	64 MB
Recommended RAM	128 MB	128 MB
Maximum RAM	4 Gigabytes (GB)	4 Gigabytes (GB)
Disk Space for Setup	1.5 GB free	1.5 GB free

- All hardware should appear on the Windows Hardware Compatibility List (HCL)
- Windows XP Professional supports Symmetric Multi-processing with a maximum of two processors, and up to 4 GB of RAM.

Attended installations

Setup stages

Windows XP Setup Stages
Setup Program (text mode)
Setup Wizard (graphical mode)
Install Windows Networking
Post Installation

1. Setup Program (text mode)- preps hard drive for following stages of install and copies files needed for running Setup Wizard. Requires reboot. (Clean installations only.)
2. Setup Wizard (graphical mode) - prompts for additional info such as product key, names, passwords, regional settings, etc.
3. Install Windows Networking - detects adapter cards, installs networking components (Client for MS Networks, File & Printer Sharing for MS Networks), and installs TCP/IP protocol by default (other protocols can be installed later). Choose to join a workgroup or domain at this point (must be connected to network and provide credentials to join a domain). After all choices are made, components are configured, additional files are copied, and the system is rebooted.
4. Post installation – create user accounts and activate retail versions of Windows XP (customers using the Corporate Edition do not need to activate their product). This stage is sometimes referred to as the “Out of Box Experience” (OOBE).

Installing from CD-ROM

- Microsoft assumes that your system either has the ability to boot directly from a CD-ROM or that you will use a Windows 95/98/ME boot floppy to begin installing from a CD. The ability to create setup floppies has been dropped from Windows XP.
- If installing using an MS-DOS or Win95/98 boot floppy, run **winnt.exe** from the \i386 folder to begin Windows XP setup.
- Setup will not prompt the user to specify the name of an installation folder unless you are performing an unattended installation or using **winnt32** to perform a clean installation.

Installing over a Network

- Create a distribution server that has a file share containing the contents of the \i386 directory from the Windows XP CD-ROM.
- Allocate 1.5 GB minimum plus 100 - 200 MB free hard drive space to hold temporary files during installation.
- Install a network client on the target computer or use a boot floppy that includes a network client. Run **winnt.exe** from a file share on the distribution server if installing a new operating system or **winnt32.exe** if upgrading a previous version of Windows.
- The client system must have a pre-existing FAT16 partition (MS-DOS & Win 95) or FAT32 partition (Win95 OSR2 & Win98) to hold setup files copied across the network.

Modifying Setup using Winnt.exe

Switch	Function
/a	Enables accessibility options.
/e[:command]	Specifies a command that will be run at the end of GUI-mode setup.
/r[:folder]	Specifies optional software to be installed. Folder is not removed after installation.
/rx[:folder]	Specifies optional folder to be copied. Folder is deleted after installation.
/s[:sourcepath]	Specifies source location of Windows XP files. Can either be a full path or network share.
/t[:tempdrive]	Specifies drive to hold temporary setup files.
/u[:answer file]	Specifies unattended setup using answer file (requires /s).
/udf:id[,UDF_file]	Establishes ID that Setup uses to specify how a UDF file modifies an answer file.

Modifying Setup using winnt32.exe

Switch	Function
/checkupgradeonly	Checks system for compatibility with Windows XP. Creates reports for upgrade installations.
/cmd:command_line	Instructs Setup to carry out a specific command before the final phase of setup. Occurs after computer has restarted but before setup is complete.
/copydir:folder_name	Creates additional folder inside %systemroot% folder. Retained after setup.
/copysource:folder_name	Same as above except folder and its contents are deleted after installation completes.
/cmdcons	This adds a Recovery Console option to the operating system selection screen.
/debug[level] [:file_name]	Creates a debug log. 0=sever errors only. 1=regular errors. 2=warnings. 3=all messages.
/dudisable	Prevents Dynamic Update from running. Will override an answer file with a Dynamic Update option specified.
/duprepare:pathname	Prepares an installation share to a copy of files downloaded by Dynamic Update from the Windows Update Web site. This share can be used for subsequent XP installations rather than having the machines contact Windows Update.

<i>/dushare:pathname</i>	Specifies a share that Dynamic Update files have been previously downloaded to.
<i>/m:folder_name</i>	Forces Setup to look in specified folder for setup files first. If files are not present, Setup uses files from default location.
<i>/makelocalsource</i>	Forces Setup to copy all installation files to local hard drive so that they will be available during successive phases of setup if access to CD drive or network fails.
<i>/nodownload</i>	Used when upgrading from Win95/98. Forces copying of winnt32.exe and related files to local system to avoid installation problems associated with network congestion.
<i>/noreboot</i>	Tells system not to reboot after first stage of installation.
<i>/s:source_path</i>	Specifies source path of installation files. Can be used to simultaneously copy files from multiple paths if desired (first path specified must be valid or setup will fail, though).
<i>/syspart:drive_letter</i>	Copies all Setup startup files to a hard disk and marks the drive as active. You can physically move the drive to another computer and have the computer move to Stage 2 of Setup automatically when it is started. Requires /tempdrive switch.
<i>/tempdrive:drive_letter</i>	Setup uses the specified tempdrive to hold temporary setup files. Used when there are drive space concerns.
<i>/unattend:[number] [:answer_file]</i>	Specifies answer file for unattended installations.
<i>/udf:id[,udf_file]</i>	Establishes ID that Setup uses to specify how a UDF file modifies an answer file.

Unattended installations

Working with Answer Files

- Unattended installations rely on an *answer file* to provide information during setup process that is usually provided through manual user input.
- Answer files can be created manually using a text editor or by using the Setup Manager Wizard (SMW) that is shown in *Figure 1*.

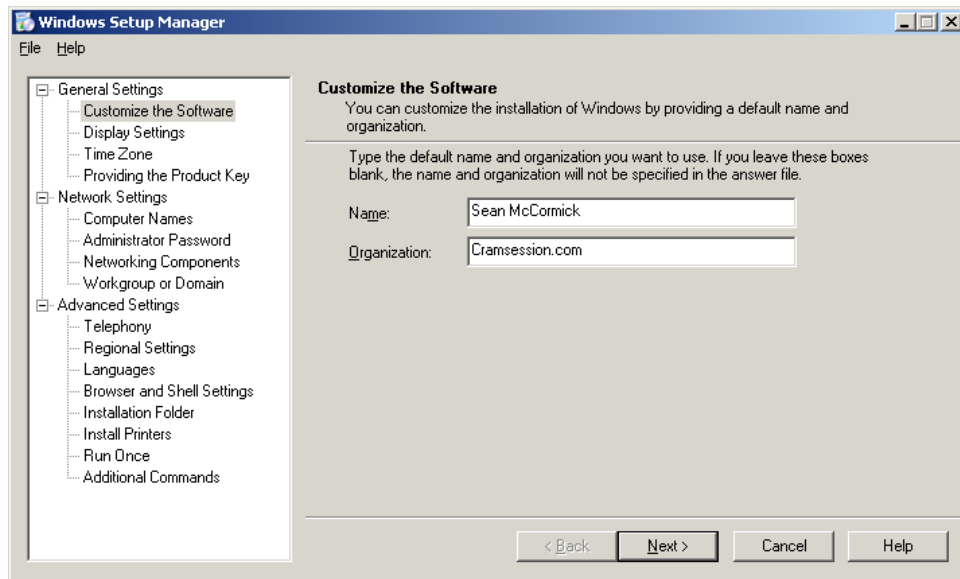


Figure 1 - The Setup Manager Wizard

- SMW can be found on the Windows XP Professional CD in the \SUPPORT\TOOLS folder in a file called DEPLOY.CAB. Extract these to a folder on your hard drive.
- SMW allows for creation of a shared Distribution Folder and OEM Branding
- If you had a CD in drive D:\ and an unattended installation answer file named salesans.txt in C:\, you could start your install with this command: **D:\i386\winnt32 /s:d:\i386 /unattend:c:\salesans.txt**
- There are five levels of user interaction during unattended installs:
 1. *Provide Defaults* - Administrator supplies default answers and user only has to accept defaults or make changes where necessary.
 2. *Fully Automated* - Mainly used for Win2000 Professional desktop installs. User just has to sit on their hands and watch.
 3. *Hide Pages* - Users can only interact with setup where Administrator did not provide default information. Display of all other dialogs is suppressed.