



DIY Computer Repair

You have the parts,
here you will find the
technical expertise to
complete your custom
PC!

DIY Computer Repair Checklist

Trouble shoot it!



Brought To You By:

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WebMaster

www.diy-computer-repair.com

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Introduction

Hello and welcome.

I'm very excited about this particular e-course because of the way it is beneficial to you and your search for the right computer repair.

As with any repair always read the instructions if provided first. If you don't understand the instructions read them again. Lacking understanding of some instructions will be disastrous. Not only to your data, your computer, and maybe to you personally.

**DIY Computer Repair
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Repairing a Computer

Creating an Image of the Boot Partition for Recovery purposes

There are quite a few ways to make an image of your boot partition, [True Image](#), Windows Vista and Windows 7, and of course Notion or Symantec's [Ghost](#).

This checklist is about Symantec's Ghost.

Why? Because I have been using it since the early 1990's and even with today's solutions it is by far the easiest and most reliable imaging system.

You should make an image of the Operating System (OS) when it is installed, all the programs you will use on a normal every day basis are installed, and the OS is optimized. The **base image** will come in handy when you need to do a **reimage** of the boot partition. Most corporations that have a large number of computers use the system this way. Once you have completed the base image any tweaks you do to the OS after that you should make a **new image**. Don't delete the base image you may need that to restore the partition if you have a hard drive failure.

Note:

If you have a motherboard failure and replace the motherboard an image may not work for the new motherboard. You may have to reinstall the OS. (The new motherboard may have hardware that is not installed on the image and it will blue screen on you!)

You will need some 'tools' before you can make your image.

- [Bootable device](#) with an Operating System...
- [Imaging software](#).
- [Storage for the image](#).

Before you start –

- I strongly suggest storage that is not part of the computer but external from the computer the image is being made for.
- I suggest you delete the pagefile.sys **if it is on** the boot partition. Also empty out the temp folder(s). This will save space on the image file(s).
- If you have an anti-virus/trojan/spyware folders empty those also.

Now you are ready to make your image.

- Boot from your bootable device.
- Start your imaging program.
- Select your system partition.
- Create your image
 - Select your storage drive.
 - Select your speed or compression.
 - I select maximum compression over speed because the size of the Operating System partitions have grown over the years and you will notice when you are done that the image file will be over four gig, some programs will split this up in to separate files of two gig each.
- Verify the image file
 - By checking the file before restarting the computer when you need to use the image it will restore with out problems.

Notes:

- When I make an image I name the file(s) with the computer name, drive, and date. This isn't a problem with today's Operating Systems because you have 256 characters for the name of a file. If your boot device OS is DOS then you will have to be more creative because you will only have 11 characters and three are the extension of the file.
 - This is my naming convention – computer name, drive, date: MQuad-C-10-01-09
Where MQuad is Monte's Quad, C is the C: partition, and the date Oct 01, 2009.

Restoring an image.

- Boot from your bootable device.
- Start your imaging program.
- Select restore from menu.
- Select the image you want to restore (if you have more than one image on the storage device).
- Select the partition you want the image to be restored to (this is where naming your partitions comes in handy).
- Start your image restore.

Notes:

- If the drive was raw and the image is the boot partition then it will have to be set as the active partition before booting.
 - If you have booted from ERD Commander or [BartPE](#) then you can use the Drive Manager to make the partition active.

- If you booted from [DOS](#) then you will have to use FDISK.COM and this command – **FDISK.COM /MBR**
- If the image was made from a computer that will reside in a Domain the computer name may have to be removed from the Domain and the re-imaged computer name brought back in to the domain once again. Depending on when the image was made you may or may not have to do this procedure.

Once you have restored the image to the partition if you had any data on the partition you will need to [restore the data from backup](#).

Remember:

Your recovery is only as good as the last backup!



Enjoy!

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[Build a Server Guide](#)

[Windows 7 Ultimate Guide](#)