

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [PSA: For those who want to upgrade thier Laptop Hard Drive](#)

mrnapolean1 - November 15, 2016, 5:46 am

I went from a traditional Hard drive to a Solid State Hard drive and Microsoft has blocked my Windows 10 Upgrade form the free upgrade promotion.

The laptop had Windows 8.1 Home then I got 8.1 Pro after I got it. A year later I take advantage of the Free Windows 10 Upgrade and it got upgraded. It was activated and running well.

Fast forward to yesterday I decide to upgrade my Hard drive. So I remove the old Disk based HDD and Install a brand new Patriot 120GB SSD. I format and install Windows 10.

I went to activation and It told me the Product Activation ID has been blocked by the server.

I just wanted to let people know that even the slightest hardware change will invalidate your free upgrade.

I am now forced to buy Windows 10 Pro now.....

archangel.dmitry - November 15, 2016, 6:45 am

I don't think so. Conntact M\$ and explain that you replaced a failed drive. Such things shouldn't break user agreement.

Fantod - November 15, 2016, 6:48 am

Yeah, I think if you explained it to them and talked with support kindly they would reconsider.

ka\$h - November 15, 2016, 11:24 am

You getting any error code mate? I don't think you'll need to go buy a new one sometimes it does take a little while to activate.

And your sure that your hard drive is all you upgraded right?

mrnapolean1 - November 15, 2016, 3:44 pm

I am going to try something. Ill let the community know of my findings.

Hash G. - November 15, 2016, 3:52 pm

Well as far as I know the product key is stored in the BIOS, and with the UUID of your disk. If any of those doesn't match (here the UUID of the disk), Windows will consider you changed your computer and as you are not allowed to share or resell your license, blocks you. That makes sense.

However, if you linked your user's account with M\$ account, you can just follow this link to re-activate it.

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/20530>

Edit: Oh and also if you don't want to buy W10 (and if everything before failed), PM me.

Deany - November 15, 2016, 3:53 pm

>Actually buying windows 10

What the heck op? Install linux or something or buy win7...

mrnapolean1 - November 15, 2016, 5:15 pm

(Nov 15, 2016 04:53 PM)Japanese Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) >Actually buying windows 10

What the heck op? Install linux or something or buy win7...

I am repurposing this laptop for Work and I need Windows. All of our PCs all run Windows 10 and the server runs Windows server 2012. So linux wont work....

As far as Windows 7, I could install Windows 7 and be done with it but I had upgraded to Windows 10 and I wanted to be able to install it when I got my SSD for it....

Theres a site on the internet that sells W10 OEM keys for about \$30.

EDIT: Here is what I am getting when I try to activate Windows:

NotAPC - November 16, 2016, 11:40 am

When I bought my windows 10 key, it told me if I wanted to use it on another computer you'd have to remove it the code from the current pc. Idk if that helps you at all but just an idea.

Inked ?Feather - November 16, 2016, 11:43 am

might be because you're tryign to redeem a code twice. it's like a new computer, and because you have to have one code per computer, it blocks it.

contact support to try and fix it. they will probably let you off
if not, just get a crack or something

(little test because people keep putting a \$)
MS

severos - November 17, 2016, 12:37 am

(Nov 15, 2016 06:15 PM)mrnapolean1 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Theres a site on the internet that sells W10 OEM keys for about \$30.

30\$!!!

getting an edu email is way cheaper than that XD

I can give you a hand if you give me couple days to finish sorting out some stuff.

ka\$h - November 17, 2016, 12:49 am

(Nov 17, 2016 01:37 AM)severos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 30\$!!!

getting an edu email is way cheaper than that XD

I can give you a hand if you give me couple days to finish sorting out some stuff.

W10 OEM Key = edu email?

Xalence - November 17, 2016, 12:52 am

I always thought it was based on the CPU and motherboard, not hard drive. Try calling Microsoft and explaining the situation, they will probably help you out and give a new key.

severos - November 17, 2016, 1:08 am

(Nov 17, 2016 01:49 AM)Ka\$h Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) W10 OEM Key = edu email?

Doesn't have to be an OEM key, using an edu email can get you a retail key.

ka\$h - November 17, 2016, 1:32 am

(Nov 17, 2016 02:08 AM)severos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Doesn't have to be an OEM key, using an edu email can get you a retail key.

wow didn't know that, whats the reason for that

#BASED - November 19, 2016, 12:19 pm

Why not just use a KMS activator?

heretolearn15 - November 20, 2016, 12:50 pm

Dang, I was going to upgrade to a SSD pretty soon!

KnownSyntax - November 20, 2016, 7:13 pm

(Nov 17, 2016 02:32 AM)Ka\$h Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) wow didn't know that, whats the reason for that
Look up "Microsoft Imagine" which was formerly known as "Microsoft Dreamspark" and renamed after "Dreamspark". They give out free Pro editions of all Windows OS and Windows Server OSs, along with tons of other applications and stuff for free.

Gt403cyl - November 22, 2016, 4:08 pm

The problem OP is windows 10 doesn't hold the activation in the same manner as previous versions of Windows did.

The free upgrade is locked to the HWID of the machine so any hardware change will require a new key/activation.

It's bullshit but that's how they did it.

If you have the key for the windows OS that you upgraded from they will use that and re-activate Windows for you, just give them a call.

Hapi - November 26, 2016, 1:59 pm

If you are still having this problem; When you choose to install Windows 10 there is an option that says "I am reinstalling my copy of Windows 10" or something similar, and if you choose the correct version of Windows - for example: if you had Windows 7 Pro you will need to choose Windows 10 Pro Not N and then install and it will activate your machine.

If not then you can sign in to your Microsoft account and it will get your key from there if you signed into Windows before. Another solution would be to go to Settings > Activation > and scroll down to 'Troubleshoot' and it can activate your licence from there using your HWID. If it cannot, it will tell you the problem.

Bluffer - November 26, 2016, 2:03 pm

This halts my plan to upgrade to an SSD now... damn that sucks!