

Install Win 7 From USB Drive

Introduction

I recently had to install Windows 7 on a laptop where it would refuse to boot the installer from my external USB DVD drive.

The solution was to make a USB boot capable Windows 7 installation drive.

Material

- 4 GB or higher USB Flash Drive
- Windows 7 DVD

Easy Microsoft Tool

Microsoft now provides a [tool](#) (also I have kept a [copy on this wiki](#)) to automate the steps for you provided you make or already have an ISO of the Windows 7 DVD and meet the following criteria.

Requirements

- Windows XP SP2 ([see additional instructions](#)), Windows Vista, or Windows 7 (32-bit or 64-bit)
- Pentium 233-megahertz (MHz) processor or faster (300 MHz is recommended)
- 50MB of free space on your hard drive
- An empty (it will be formatted) USB Flash Drive 4 GB or higher

After that it's point and click which are quite straightforward.

Just in case the site goes down, I have put a [copy of the tool downloaded Nov 9, 2010](#).

Manual Method

Not really necessary anymore but there are various articles at,

[Into Windows](#) which I have followed successfully and [Kevin's Blog](#).