

Re: Lost Product ID

Source:

http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2004-02/2348.html

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Greetings --

The Windows 25-character Product Key (required to perform the installation) is stored on the CD packaging on a bright orange sticker that says "Do not lose this number." If it was an OEM (factory installed) license, it's stored on a label that the PC manufacturer affixed to the exterior of the PC case, or on the bottom of a laptop.

To recover a lost Product Key:

If your system still runs, you should be able to use AIDA32 Enterprise from <http://www.aida32.hu/aida32.php> to find the Product Key. (If you have a factory-installed OEM license, and haven't since reinstalled the OS, the revealed Product Key is probably of the drive image used at the factory and not *_your_* specific Product Key; therefore, it probably cannot be -- and definitely should not be -- used for a re-installation.)

If it was a retail license and you have proof of purchase:

How to Replace Lost, Broken, or Missing Microsoft Software or Hardware
<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=KB;en-us;326246>

If it was an OEM license, you should contact whomever sold you the PC; although very few manufacturers/vendors keep records of the Product Keys they've sold, it's worth a try before you have to buy a new license.

Bruce Chambers

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Help us help you:

<http://dts-l.org/goodpost.htm>

<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faq/smart-questions.html>

You can have peace. Or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on having both at once. -- RAH

"Larry Horsfield" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message news:100a401c3f395\$5556f9ac0\$a301280a@phx.gbl...

> Hi,

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microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin: Re: Lost Product ID

>
> I have lost the jewel case for my legitimate XP Pro, which
> obviously had the Product ID on it I need to enter to do a
> re-install. Like an idiot, I didn't write the PID down
> somewhere in case of such an event!
>
> Is it possible to obtain a new PID from Microsoft? I
> bought the XP Pro via ebay, so have no proof of purchase,
> but I registered it when I first installed and activated
> it.
>
> Any help gratefully received.
>
> Larry.