

Re: How to overcome an unknown password

Source:

http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2005-10/0652.html

From: rose (rose_at_discussions.microsoft.com)

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When I bought my computer it came loaded with XP and some applications eg Works etc. As I didn't like this I purchased a copy of Office 2003. I never had to buy OS disks. Looking on the Amazon website I'm a little confused. If I buy XP Home full edition will that come with applications such as Excel, Word etc? Once I have disks, what do I do then – do I just load them into disk drive and let it run its course? I've only had my own computer for just under 2 years (bought from Dell) so a lot of stuff I didn't need to know.

"Bruce Chambers" wrote:

> rose wrote:

>> *I recently bought a second-hand computer, for my grand-daughter, from a company gone into liquidation. Windows XP Professional is installed but I was not given any systems disks.*

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> *Because you didn't receive an installation disk or any other documentation with that computer, you really didn't get a license to use the software that's currently installed on the computer, anyway. (I'm surprised that the former owner of the computer didn't have the good sense to protect his personal information by wiping the hard drive before disposing of the computer.) Shop around for the best deals and purchase the OS and applications that you want to use on that computer.*

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>> *(For info: I do have systems disks for my own computer which uses XP Home and Office 2003).*

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> *Not really relevant, unless these are retail licenses and you're planning to remove them from your PC to place them on the second-hand computer.*

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>> *A Windows password has been set on the 'second-hand' computer and I'm required to enter UserID and Password – neither of which I know. The Company has now gone and there's no way for me to find this information out. What*

> > *can I do??*

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> *That's just as well. With second-hand computers, especially if
> acquired from strangers but perhaps even if acquired from a family
> member or friend, your wisest course of action would probably be to
> format the hard drives and start fresh. You don't want to get in
> trouble because the original owner may have filled the hard drive with
> kiddie porn, or have problems because the original owner
> downloaded/installed viruses or other malware.*

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> *Bruce Chambers*

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> *Help us help you:*

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

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

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

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