

Install Window XP on SD Card Solid State Drive – By Vigothecarpathian

Here is how I got windows XP up on the drive without using any cd drives or any peripherals other than using my other computer and its own drive and card reader:

You need:

- 1) Windows XP installer disk (I used Service pack 2)
- 2) HP USB disk storage format tool
- 3) nLite
- 4) smartdrv.exe (dos file that makes the installation go faster, recommended.)
- 5) Dos startup disk files (I used an old windows 98 dos boot disk. Also this should be a folder of the actual dos files themselves, which include "COMMAND.COM", "IO.SYS" and "MSDOS.SYS".)

Items 2-5 you should be able to find using a Google search, this is all free software.

Here is what to do:

1: Format SD card to be used with HP Format tool, creating dos startup disk and using FAT32 (point to the directory you have the dos boot disk files in).

2: Copy the files from the XP install disk into a folder named "xp" on your computer. Run nLite and remove all the functions you don't need. It will take you through a step by step of what you can remove, but you can get further instructions online. Don't remove anything to do with Winnt, this is the dos xp installer that you will need later. Also, you must enable the options to bypass the HDD free space requirement and the minimum memory requirements.

3: copy the formatted "xp" directory to the SD card, also copy over the smartdrv.exe file

4: put SD card into the solid state hard drive, and plug it into the computer you want windows on, when you startup it should boot up dos.

5: in dos, enter "smartdrv.exe" nothing will happen other than a new command line will appear.

6: Then enter "xp|i386\winnt" this command will open up the dos-based version

7: The computer starts the windows installer and will copy the install files, then reset. Then it will start again and ask what directory to install onto, choose the drive, then and leave the file system as FAT32

8: It will restart again and start the install process, I have gotten blue screens at random times, but I just restarted the computer, let it run checkdisk and just kept trying and after a few attempts I eventually got through the install process without any problems.

9: It should startup just fine. It will show an error about the page file, but just go into the "My Computer" properties settings, and select in the virtual ram options select "no paging file" and it should still operate at a fast enough speed.

That's it! Good Luck! ^_^