

## XP Not a Genuine Version of Windows Work Around

1. Open Windows Explorer by clicking Start -> All Programs -> Accessories -> Windows Explorer.
2. Browse to C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\Windows Genuine Advantage\data folder.
3. Delete (or backup or move to another folder, if you want) data.dat file.
4. Create a new empty data.dat: You can create a new text file by (make sure you are at the right folder at above) clicking File -> New -> Text Document or right clicking on Windows Explorer window then click New -> Text Document. Then, either rename the file to data.dat. The original .txt extension of the text file need to be changed too. You can disable the hiding of extension of known file types, or follow the following steps to create a new file out of the text file:
  - \* Open the text document you just created.
  - \* Click on File -> Save As.
  - \* Change the Save as type to "All Files".
  - \* In the File name, type data.dat
  - \* Click Save.
  - \* Go back to the Windows Explorer, at folder C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\Windows Genuine Advantage\data, check that data.dat exists.
  - \* Delete the text file you created previously.
5. Set the attributes of data.dat to Hidden and Read-Only. Attributes can be set by right click on the data.dat file, and then click on Properties.
6. Windows Genuine Advantage (WGA) validation check has been disabled.

Note: The data.dat that are replacing the original data.dat can be blank text file or empty, or you may type whatever you want there.

With this hack (or crack if you want), Windows WGA piracy check will be bypassed and you can now download software from Download Center or apply updates from Microsoft/Windows Updates.

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### Windows Product Activation

WPA is cracked!!! What is WPA? Windows Product Activation. IT's a small program called "XP Key Recoverer and Discoverer 5.12" which is supposed to block the use of certain Microsoft products on more than one computer per program copy.

For more of the story see:

Click here: Van's Hardware Journal: WindowsXP: Is the XPerience Worth It?  
[http://www.vanshardware.com/articles/2001/august/010822\\_XP/010822\\_XP.htm](http://www.vanshardware.com/articles/2001/august/010822_XP/010822_XP.htm)

## Move Windows XP to Another Computer

There is no "deactivation" process for Windows XP. If you want to move your Windows XP installation to a different PC, use these steps:

- Remove Windows XP from its current hardware. You can remove Windows XP by using the "uninstall" routine; if you previously upgraded from another OS **and** you elected to save uninstall information at the time. You can also format the hard drive, and install an other Operating System.
- Install Windows XP on the other system.

- If 120-days have passed since you previously activated Windows XP, you should be able to use the automatic "on-line" activation method.
- If the activation fails, you will be prompted to call the Windows Activation center. A telephone number will be displayed on your screen. All you have to tell the activation center is that you removed Windows XP from one PC, and installed it on another PC. You will be asked for the 50-digit activation key. No other information is needed. If you are asked if you want to provide your details for registration, you can choose to decline. Registration is optional, and **not** required for activation.
- The operator at the activation center will give you a 42-digit key, which you type in to activate your new XP installation.

**Note:** This procedure will be allowed on retail copies of Windows XP. If you have an OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) version of Windows XP, this procedure will be disallowed in most cases. According to Microsoft, an OEM version of Windows XP is linked to the specific hardware it was sold on. Some OEM vendors have exceptions to this rule; you have to check with your OEM.

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