

Reinstalling Windows 10 from fresh!

BACKUP EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KEEP FROM YOUR PC! – I am not responsible if you lose anything, especially those prize pictures, or memories, if in doubt, back it up!!!!

I am a fan of taking "snapshot" images, so, if things go up the swanny, you have a backup! so this part is optional:

- Have a USB drive on hand, depending on your PC, and how much you have installed, I would recommend make sure your USB hard drive has at least 60GB of space free.
- Download and install this software: <http://www.backup-utility.com/download.html>
- Run the backupper, click the "Backup" tab, choose system backup. Then, go through and choose the main disk you want to backup (in most cases, the C Drive), then choose the destination as your hard drive with circa 60GB or more of space. Then just keep clicking next to backup the disk.
- This may take up to an hour or so, but its worth it, as if anything goes wrong, you can at least restore back to your "pre upgrade" place. I did this with my Windows 8 image, before I even started the attempted upgrade to 10.
- if you have a blank CD, pop it in the CD Writer drive, and on Backupper, go to Utilities and click "Create Bootable Media". You can use either USB or CD, but if its a USB this too will be formatted, and for me, I like to just leave the CD in the drive for all eternity as I don't bother using CD's otherwise, and it's just there in case I need it!

The Essential Part:

If you don't do this, you will just make life harder, as you will need another PC, or you may need to restore your backup to get it back to a working state, then complete this anyway, so its best to do it first time!

- Find the model of your laptop. It should have a sticker on the bottom, or under the keyboard, for example, mine was an ASUS X555LA.
- If you do not know what your laptop is, and it does not have the model printed on the case, or a sticker anywhere, if you don't know, just ask I will try help out.
- Go to the laptop manufacturers Website (in my case ASUS.COM/UK)
- Go to the "Support" Menu (this may be under Services, or have its own heading).
- On there, enter the model name, or, you may have an option to "detect automatically", this will install a small piece of software on your PC, so accept the download, and let it work - this then tells the website, exactly which laptop you have.
- Go to the "Drivers and tools" menu, if you need to choose a CPU, be careful, and seek further advice! if you download the wrong one, you have the potential to kill your laptop, better safe than sorry!
- Download all the Driver and tools files, it's better to get every one of them, as when your PC starts, it may not have the right drivers, and you may need to do a fresh install. Also, check for BIOS

updates, these may have a new release which supports the new Windows offerings. I had to download a BIOS update, because my computer would not wake up from sleep, though it works perfectly now.

- Back all of these files up to your external hard drive.

Now to actually get the Windows 10 Media:

- Visit: <http://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/software-download/windows10>
- Choose if your computer is 32 or 64 bit.
 - NB: If you are unsure what that means, go to the start menu, locate the word "Computer" and right click - choose Properties.
 - If you look at the "System Type" it will either say "64 bit Operating system" or "x86 [or perhaps 32 bit] Operating System".
 - Now, if you show "64 bit operating system" download, click that download, likewise if you show (either x86 or 32 bit) download that version.
- When the software is downloaded, open it, and choose the option along the lines of "Create installation media for another pc". Your options here are to use a USB pen (I think it needs to be minimum 8GB, and any data on it should be backed up, as it will be formatted and the data lost) or, you can opt to build a bootable DVD (you may need two DVD's).
- Follow the on screen prompts to choose which device you want to burn the installation media to (DVD / USB Drive), and let it burn.
- When Completed, your options are:
 - **If you use Windows 7** - Put the disk in place, reboot the PC and at the BIOS screen (Black screen, white text if you are unsure what that is) when it does its first beep and tests, it should either automatically detect and display a message along the lines of "Run Media", alternatively, you may have to access your "Boot Manager", this can be either the ESCAPE, F6, or F8 key by default (*if you need help, just ask, I can try help you find it*). Alternatively, when you reboot, the bottom left of the screen should say for example "Press Delete to enter Bios, F5 for Startup Manager" or such like, in which case, choose the F5 key. Then, from the list of media, choose the USB device, or CD Drive (whichever you burned the media to!)
 - **If you use Windows 8 or if you already upgraded to 10** - go to the "POWER" screen, on the start menu / right hand task bar, click POWER, and the whilst holding SHIFT key - press restart. Alternatively, you can go to Start, Settings, and there is somewhere in there a boot options (I can tell you for definite when I get back home where to look I will look to update this guide if necessary!) and in there, you will have an option that may say "Reboot to USB" or similar. Either way, you should get a "Choose an option" screen, and you should click "Use a USB device".

- Follow the on screen prompts to get everything setup. If you have WiFi, you will need your WiFi credentials to hand, then just follow the wizard to complete the fresh installation. It's all quite self-explanatory, though if you have any issues, feel free to ask, I have no qualms helping.
- Once it's done, you will have a fresh Windows installation.
- Now, just go to your hard drive, and install all the drivers that are applicable to your hardware, under most circumstances, installing all of them is fine, because they check if you have the right hardware and abandon the installation if you do not have that device.