

Ubuntu is not booting in dual boot

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We've talked a lot about running multiple operating systems on the same computer—whether it's Windows and Linux, Windows and OS X, or something else—but what happens when it's time to get rid of one? Here's how to delete Windows or Linux from your system after you've dual-booted them. Windows 7 and Ubuntu, despite their opposing missions, can get along like best pals on a single...[Read more](#)The process is actually quite simple, but many of you ask us this when you go through your first dual-booting process, so we've decided to lay out the instructions here for easy access. All you really need to do is delete the partition on which your unwanted OS is installed. That process will vary a little based on which OS you're keeping, so here are three sets of instructions.**Note:** Before you start, make sure you have an up-to-date backup of the system you want to keep. If you make one tiny mistake in the steps below, you could end up deleting the wrong partition, which would be very very bad!**Keep Windows and Remove Linux**If you've given Linux a shot but you're ready to stick with Windows as your main OS, you'll have to go through a few extra steps. This assumes Windows and Linux were on the same drive, and the partitions are located next to each other. Here's what you need to do:**Head to the Start menu (or Start screen) and search for "Disk Management."** Open up the Disk Management tool.**Find your Linux partition.** It won't be labeled since Windows doesn't understand the Linux file system, so you'll need to figure out which one it is by size and where it is on your hard drive. Make sure you have the right one before continuing!**Right-click on the partition and choose "Delete Volume."** This will delete the partition from your hard drive, leaving free space. If you get a green box of "free space," you'll have to right-click on it and choose "Delete Volume" a second time until you get the black "Unallocated Space."**Right-click on your Windows partition and choose "Extend Volume."** Extend it to fill the free space your Linux partition left behind.**Lastly,** insert your Windows recovery disc (or recovery USB drive) and boot from it. Choose "Repair Your Computer," go to "Troubleshoot," and then enter a Command Prompt. Type the following command: bootrec.exe /fixmbr This will remove Linux's bootloader and replace it with Windows'. Reboot your computer and you should find that it boots directly into Windows, with no Linux partition to be found.**If you set up your dual-booting differently, your instructions may vary slightly—like if you put Linux on a separate hard drive, or if you have other operating systems on the drive.** But for most people, these instructions should suffice.**Keep OS X and Remove Windows or Linux**If you've using a Mac, removing another partition is very easy. Again, this assumes that your partitions are on the same drive.**Update:** Reader MartyF81 notes that actually, the best way to uninstall Windows is to use Boot Camp's built-in uninstaller. You can do this by launching the Boot Camp assistant and following the prompts.**If you are running Windows in BootCamp on an Apple, you actually need to uninstall it via Boot Camp** [Read more](#)**If you need to remove a Linux partition, however (or you're on a Hackintosh), here's what you'll want to do:**Open up "Disk Utility" from /Applications/Utilities.**Click on your hard drive in the left-hand sidebar (the drive, not the partition) and go to the "Partition" tab.** Find the Windows or Linux partition you want to remove (you probably labeled them when you first created them).**Click on the partition you want to remove, then click the small minus button at the bottom of the window.** This will remove the partition from your system.**Click the corner of your Mac partition and drag it down so it fills up the free space left behind.** Click Apply when you're finished.**You Mac may take a minute to perform the necessary processes, but when it's done, your system will be back to its original Macintosh self.** If you had rEFIt installed on your system, you can leave it there—it isn't going to hurt anything—but you can also remove it just by deleting a few files.**Keep Linux and Remove Windows**If you're the adventurous type and have decided to go to Linux full time, then your job is pretty easy. Instructions may vary by distro and your specific setup, but for the traditional Ubuntu setup, it should look something like this:**Insert a live CD or USB for your Linux distribution and start up its partition manager (like Gparted).** Find your Windows partition in Gparted's menu—it'll be listed as an NTFS drive.**Right-click on that Windows partition and choose "Delete"** from the menu. Your machine may have other Windows-related partitions as well, like "System Reserved" and recovery partitions. If you want, you can delete these as well (but make sure you have recovery discs handy if you're going to delete a recovery partition).**Right-click on your Linux partition and choose "Resize/Move."** Resize it so it takes up the rest of the now-free space on your drive.**Click the "Apply All Operations" button in the toolbar to perform the selected tasks.** It may give you a warning saying that your computer may not boot, but with most Linux instalations this shouldn't be a problem (though if it is, check out this article to fix it). This process may take some time, so let it be!**When it finishes, you should have a hard drive with nothing but Linux on it.** Your boot menu will still have some Windows entries, and it'll work fine if you leave them there, but if you want to clean things up, just open up a Terminal in Linux and run:`sudo update-grub`to remove them.**Like we said, every dual-boot setup is a beautiful and unique snowflake, so you may have to adjust some of these instructions as you go to work with your specific settings.** Hopefully, this should give you a good guide, though. Always remember to back up first, and good luck! Microsoft's upcoming Windows 10 operating system promises a number of interesting features, including a revamped Start menu with live tiles, the ability to create virtual desktops and the ability to run any app in its own window. If you want to test the operating the preview build, you can install it over your existing Windows 7 or 8 environment or run it in a virtual machine within your current OS. However, if you want to get the best of both worlds: a Windows 10 test environment that has full access to all of your hardware and doesn't erase your current operating system, you'll want to dual boot. Here's how to install Windows 10 Preview on its own partition so you can choose between your current operating system (Windows 7, 8 or 8.1) and Windows 10 every time you start your PC.**Before you begin, you'll need to make sure that you have at least 20GB of free storage space on your internal drives.** You'll also need a USB drive that's at least 4GB.**1.** Download the Windows 10 preview ISO file from [preview.windows.com](#). Once you're on the site, you will need to hit the Get Started button, click Join Now, sign in with your account and accept the terms and conditions. You'll then click the Install technical preview link and look for the correct ISO file (you may have to click a link that says "Get the ISO files" first).**For most modern PCs, you'll want 64-bit Windows 10.** However, if you are running this on an Atom-based tablet or a very old computer that has less than 4GB of RAM, you should go with 32-bit.**2.** Download and install the Windows 7 USB/DVD Download Tool. Don't be fooled by the name; this software will burn the Windows 10 installer to a USB stick so you can use it like a bootable DVD.**3.** Insert a USB Flash drive that's at least 4GB into your PC. Make sure there's no data on it that you need to keep, because the burning process will erase it. **4.** Launch Windows 7 USB/DVD Download Tool.**5.** Select the ISO file by hitting the Browse button and then click Next.**6.** Click USB device. If you have an optical drive, with a blank disc you could choose DVD instead, but for most people, USB is easier.**7.** Select the USB drive and click Begin copying.**MORE:** [Laptop Interactive Buying Guide](#)**8.** Click Erase USB Device and click OK to confirm if prompted.**The tool will then take a few minutes to copy files to the USB drive.** If you already have a free partition available for Windows 10, you can skip ahead to step 18.**9.** Navigate to the disk management tool on your PC. To get there in either Windows 7 or 8 / 8.1, go to the desktop control panel, click Administrative tools, select Computer Management, hit Storage and then select Disk Management.**10.** Right click on your C Drive and select Shrink Volume in the bottom window pane. **11.** Enter the amount to shrink in MB, which will be the size of your Windows 10 drive. We recommend 20GB (20,000 MB) at minimum, with 40 or more GB if you plan to install apps. Click Shrink. A block of unallocated space roughly equal to the amount you shrank appears.**12.** Right click on the unallocated space and select New Simple Volume.**13.** Click Next.**14.** Click Next again, leaving the simple volume set to use all the available space.**15.** Click Next to assign a drive letter. It doesn't matter which letter you choose.**16.** Select "Do not format this volume" and click Next.**17.** Click Finish.**MORE:** [Windows 10 \(Finally\) Gives Power to the People](#)**18.** Boot off of your USB drive. You may need to hit a special key such as F11 or F12 as soon as your computer starts in order to select your boot device. **19.** Click Next, leaving the language, time and keyboard settings intact.**20.** Click Install Now.**21.** Accept the license terms and click Next.**22.** Select Custom install.**23.** Select the partition you just created, which may be marked as "unallocated space." Click Next.**Windows will take a few minutes to copy files.** After a few minutes, the system will restart and display a boot menu.**24.** Select Windows Technical Preview. If you have Windows 7, the menu will work the same way but display as ASCII text rather than a graphical interface.**This system will copy more files and then reboot again.****25.** Select Windows Technical Preview a second time, after the system reboots.**MORE:** [12 Dumbest PC Default Settings \(and How to Change Them\)](#) **26.** Click "Use express settings." **27.** Sign in to your Microsoft account or create a new one.**28.** Verify your account by entering your email address and then inputting the code that Microsoft emails to you.**29.** Select "Set this up as a new PC instead" so you can experience a fresh, default install of Windows 10. **Click Next.** **30.** Click Next to enable OneDrive.**Windows will take a few minutes finalizing your settings.** Then you'll see the desktop and you're done.**Next time you boot your PC, you'll be presented with the same boot menu and given the choice of starting your old version of Windows or Windows 10 Preview.**

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