
Subject: Micro Xp

Posted by [Mike Bloomer](#) on Fri, 04 Jul 2008 03:53:43 GMT

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Micro XP is a hacked stripped down version of XP. It's apparently popular with gamers... A friend at work got a hold of a copy and I had a chance to try it. I work at a computer repair shop and the idea behind trying it was to make some of the older P3s usable again. It works! It takes about 10 minutes to do a complete install. When the system is booted up it uses 36 meg of memory and runs 15 processes! Nearly everything has been stripped from the OS. There is no local networking, no scheduling, and no internet explorer. It will run Firefox though so internet is possible. Most XP programs will run on it.

Just for giggles I loaded it on a 900MHz P3 with 256mb ram. Then I installed Cubase LE and loaded in 10 stereo tracks of audio and 15 plugins. It ran it perfectly and wasn't bogged down at all! So I added 10 more stereo tracks and it ran those.

I tried it on my Paris box at home as a dual boot and so far so good. It seems to be immune to some of Paris's bugs.

If you decide to try it get version .08 not version .06 which is more commonly available. I'm still testing I'll do a more complete synopsis when I'm finished....
MB

Subject: Re: Micro Xp

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Fri, 04 Jul 2008 12:06:55 GMT

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How do you get Internet but no local networking?

With Cubase, did you set XP process to background services priority as in the manual?

Subject: Re: Micro Xp

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Fri, 04 Jul 2008 12:10:42 GMT

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also, can you run updates to keep it secure ?

Subject: Re: Micro Xp

Posted by [Robert](#) on Fri, 04 Jul 2008 13:14:06 GMT

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Great news Mike, keep us posted.

"Mike Bloomer" <tubeguru2006@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:486d9ec7@linux...

>
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> gamers... A friend at work got a hold of a copy and I had a chance to try
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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [excelav](#) on Fri, 04 Jul 2008 15:46:16 GMT
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Hey Mike, where can you get it?

"Mike Bloomer" <tubeguru2006@gmail.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Robert](#) on Fri, 04 Jul 2008 18:33:42 GMT
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A bit more info I found :-)

----- --
MicroXP v0.82

by eXPerience

Thank you for trying this special MicroXP edition of Windows XP.

With a WINDOWS folder that is only 199Mb and a CD size of just 99.9Mb,
this has to be one of the smallest Windows XP installations out there.

Whats more - you can use 99% of the programs you always use and up to
now there is not one single report of any game not working in MicroXP.

This installation takes only 5 Minutes 30 seconds.

This install includes default XP drivers for Ethernet/Sound/SCSI/RAID

It has all languages kept, except Chinese/Japanese/Korean.

It has all keyboard layout choices kept.

It also has Service Pack 3 final slipstreamed into it.

LAN Networking is now possible - Use '\\\\\\\\'Map Network Drive\\\\\\\\\\' and
just put
the computer name of the computer you want to network with.

Digital Cameras and Scanners can also now be used.

The ISO file size is the same as in the previous release - 99.9Mb

[Statistics]

Installation time, in VMware, from
ISO file, from end of formatting 5 Mins 30 Secs

RAM Usage On First Installation 39 Mb
Handles 2229
Threads 157
Processes 15

Entire Install Size 205Mb

Documents and settings folder size 3.19 Mb
Program Files folder size 2.79 Mb
WINDOWS folder size 199 Mb

Files In System32 815

ISO File Size 99.9 Mb

[Services Remaining In Windows]

Cryptographic Services
DCOM Server Process Launcher
DHCP Client
Event Log
Logical Disk Manager
Logical Disk Manager Administrative Service
Network Connections
Plug and Play
Print Spooler
Remote Access Auto Connection Manager
Remote Access Connection Manager
Remote Procedure Call
Server
TCP/IP NetBIOS Helper
Telephony
Windows Audio
Windows Image Acquisition (WIA)
Windows Installer

Wireless Zero Configuration Workstation

All these services are enabled on installation,
so you can start using Windows straight away.

[eXPerience Desktop Folder Contents]

Desktop Icon Layout (Lets you save your desktop icon layout)
Driver Install Tool (Easily install all your drivers, see ReadMe)
Keyboard Settings (Quick access to Regional and Language options)
Networking Guide (Shows how to get connected to your networked PC\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\'s)
Registry Backup (Make a complete backup of the registry in one click)
Services Config (Files to enable and disable functionality)
ShrinkXP Scripts (to remove any items you do not want or need)
Web Browser (Browzar, to download a full browser of YOUR choice)
Windows Media Player 11 (This is just a readme file about WMP11)

[WHAT YOU CANNOT DO]

This is a greatly reduced installation of Windows XP Professional SP3

Please read these notes BEFORE using this edition of Windows:

* * * * *

- SINGLE USER ONLY

You cannot add any additional users. Do not try to add more users, otherwise your main account that is used by default (Administrator) will become the new account and after logging in, you will not have any desktop theme (not even Classic) and the whole account will be ruined. You\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\'ll probably have to install Windows again because if you make a new account it replaces Administrator and tries to log you in with Default User - the problem with this is - there is no Default User anymore.

* * * * *

- NO NATIVE SUPPORT FOR FTP SITES

There is no built in support for downloading from FTP sites, try using Filezilla or WS_FTP if you need to do that. Even just Opera or Firefox can probably do it. This functionality is gone

because the Application Layer Gateway service is gone, along with ALG.EXE that normally runs in Task Manager, taking up about 6Mb RAM for what amounts to no reason.

* * * * *

- NO VISITING WINDOWS UPDATE

You cannot visit Windows Update with this version of Windows because Internet Explorer is removed. You can manually download updates from Microsoft and you can also use the alternative Windiz Update website through Opera or Firefox. Because so much has been removed from this edition of Windows, you are not likely to be any more safe installing updates for Windows.

NOTE: Because this edition of Windows uses a patched winlogon.exe in order to remove the oembios.bin file, you really should not update Windows anyway, in case winlogon.exe gets replaced by an update. There are more details about this in the eXPerience folder on the desktop once MicroXP is installed.

* * * * *

- NO FAST USER SWITCHING

Apart from you only being able to have the one account anyway (Administrator) the ability to do Fast User Switching is also removed.

* * * * *

- NO PASSWORD STORAGE/AUTOCOMPLETE

Windows will not save stored passwords, however, this only really applied to Internet Explorer and Outlook Express, which are removed. You will be fine using Firefox or Opera web browsers and Thunderbird email client for emails. Those are self contained programs and take care of storing your passwords by themselves.

* * * * *

- NO CD-ROM AUTOPLAY

When you insert a CD that would bring up a screen to install the program contained on the CD, this does not happen in this version of Windows, you will have to explore the CD manually and run whatever file it is that runs the program\\'s setup, usually setup.exe on the root of the CD. If the CD has a file called

AUTORUN.INF then open that file and look at which .exe file is listed in AUTORUN.INF

- NO SMART CARD DETECTION

- NO SCHEDULED TASKS

You cannot set programs, like AntiVirus or Hard Disk Defrag programs to run in the future IF they need the Scheduled Tasks service in Windows. If you are going to run those types of programs you will have to manually scan or defrag whenever it is convenient. Despite this, one program that will schedule its operations is Perfectdisk defrag, you do not need Task Scheduler for this program to run a scheduled defrag.

- NO REMOTE DESKTOP

There is no Remote Desktop in this version of Windows because the Terminal Services service is removed.

- NO THEMES

You cannot have the Luna (Blue/Olive/Silver) desktop theme in this version of Windows, the only theme you can choose is Windows Classic which it is already set to by default. You can however install Windowblinds if you want to and it will work fine, Windowblinds does not rely on the Themes service. You could even make MicroXP look like Vista with the Ironjer AeroGlass The Remix V4. Use v4 not v5 of that if you use it.

- NO UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY SERVICE

I always thought UPS Service delivered parcels but apparently not, if you have this type of device then it will not work on this version of Windows. A UPS is only used for emergencies like if you have a power cut - thats if you even have such a device.

[WHAT YOU CAN DO]

- PROGRAMS -

You can still install and run just about all the programs and games that you can run on a normal installation of XP. There is a text file in the eXPerience folder on the desktop that has a list of programs that work and includes some that don't work (not many). Even Office 2007 installs on this version of Windows

- GAMES -

Up to now, there has not been one single report of any game not working on MicroXP. Gaming is what this edition of Windows is all about, it gives better benchmarks than any other version of Windows I have ever tested.

- LAN NETWORKING -

At last - MicroXP now has the ability to browse your local network. All you need to know is the computer name of the computer you want to connect to and thats about it, just right click My Computer and choose Map Network Drive. All computers can see each other even if every computer in the network is running this MicroXP.

- CAMERAS AND SCANNERS

Now in MicroXP it is possible to use a digital camera (USB only, no Firewire) or a scanner. Tested and working with a Fuji FinePix 6MP camera. The Photo Printing Wizard is not included, neither is the wizard to download photos from the internet, but the rest of the functionality for cameras and scanners is as complete as in full Windows. My favourite saying: whats missing, you're not gonna miss! Print photos with Photoshop or maybe even Irfanview. Ctrl+P to print works in every single program that supports it, so its not like we ever needed the photo printing wizard, which only ever made all images I fed through it A4, even small images, so it actually did not even work, unless I skipped a button but there really are no buttons to skip in that wizard, its useless.

- DIAL-UP CONNECTION -

You can still use a Dial-Up connection (Broadband or old 56k modem). This is the one major flaw in other stripped out operating systems, a lot of UK users still use a modem with broadband... in this edition, RAS Dial-Up/PPPoE/DSL/ADSL connectivity is OK as well as old 56k modems. Yes, try this install on a Pentium II or even an old 486 might run it! They had 75Mhz processors and 8Mb RAM with 4Mb graphics cards.

- WEB BROWSER -

This installation already includes a basic web browser called Browzar that uses a few core files left from Internet Explorer. No, Internet Explorer is not included, but select files included in this installation that come from Internet Explorer are vital to running Windows. Its also Internet Explorer related files that allow you to open CHM files, which you can do in this edition of Windows. This Browzar web browser is only here so you can at least get online and download Firefox, Opera, Netscape or whatever browser you want. This not only saves space on this CD, but you get to choose what web browser you want to use and you get the latest version not an old and possibly insecure version. Flash v9.0.124.0 for Firefox and Opera is included, so Google Video and YouTube work straight away in whichever browser you install.

- PASSES WGA CHECKS

If you go to download for example, Windows Media Player 11 from Microsoft's downloads section, you will need to validate windows by running the GenuineCheck.exe file that Microsoft asks you to download as part of the Windows Genuine Advantage checks. Its fine to do this, don't be scared of your key being blacklisted.

- WINDOWS MEDIA PLAYER 11

You can install Windows Media Player 11 in this edition of Windows. NOTE: Because the file WMPLOC.DLL is not in system32, Windows Media Player 11 will say that it could not complete setup or words to

that effect. IGNORE THIS ERROR! Windows Media Player 11 is fully working after you install it and get that error, Windows Media Video type formats stream in Opera and Firefox still - so you can ignore that installation error. Just make sure if you install Windows Media Player 11 to have the Cryptographic Services service enabled. Windows Media Player 11 needs that service started to install. After installing Windows Media Player 11 you can then disable Cryptographic Services if you wish, like a lot of stuff in Windows, it doesn't really do anything important.

- WMV STREAMS -

Once you have installed Opera, Firefox, Netscape or the browser of your choice, as long as you install Windows Media Player 11, you can stream Windows Media Videos from websites like the BBC's News website, or anywhere that has WMV streams. This is possible because there are three DLL files added to the Windows Media Player folder in Program Files. Don't worry, there's no Windows Media Player there, it only contains the vital DLL files for streaming compatibility in Firefox and Opera if you install Windows Media Player 11. Note that you do need to install Windows Media Player 11 to view .WMV movies in web pages.

- FLASH -

If you install Opera or Firefox web browser(s) in this special MicroXP edition of Windows, you can go visit YouTube or Google Video without even having to install Flash Player. You can just watch the videos right away.

Release Date: June 22nd 2008

"Rob Arsenault" <mani1147athotmaildotcom> wrote in message news:486e2435\$1@linux...

> Great news Mike, keep us posted.

>

>

> "Mike Bloomer" <tubeguru2006@gmail.com> wrote in message

> news:486d9ec7@linux...

>>

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sat, 05 Jul 2008 00:25:11 GMT
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Google the phrase * MicroXP v0.82 *
Looks like a bit torrent.

AA

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:486e45c8\$1@linux...

>
> Hey Mike, where can you get it?
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> "Mike Bloomer" <tubeguru2006@gmail.com> wrote:
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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Carl Amburn](#) on Sat, 05 Jul 2008 12:01:10 GMT
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Hey all - I've been out of the loop lately with work and travel.

I played around with loading MicroXP last night - I gotta say... it's very impressive. Really, really fast. I loaded Paris, and it flies - haven't had a crash yet, and I've never seen the meters and transport run so smoothly. It 'feels' silly good.

Definitely worth looking into for Paris on XP.

-Carl

Aaron Allen wrote:

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> Looks like a bit torrent.
>
> AA
>

Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [TCB](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 02:45:56 GMT
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If you install a boxed copy of XP and patch it, you're not all that far from this. You might have to do a bit to stop some services from starting, but it's only a few. I don't about the handle and thread counts mentioned re: MicroXP

However, with MicroXP you lose LAN networking, user accounts (I know what they're doing to do that, don't think it's a good idea), remote desktop, automatic updates (you want to run an unpatched XP machine? You sure?), and a bunch of other stuff. I don't think that's a good trade.

TCB

"Mike Bloomer" <tubeguru2006@gmail.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [tubeguru](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 03:26:13 GMT
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John wrote:

> also, can you run updates to keep it secure ?

No you can't run updates, but the good news is that most of the stuff affected by most common Malware is not there... Avg Free version 7.5 works fine, Spybot will also run. AVG 8 will not install, neither will

NTI cd burning , Nero 6 will though.

The reason the networking works the way it does I think is that the networking protocols for internet and local networking are different.

If you leave out the local networking it doesn't really affect the internet. An advantage to this is that the Micro XP machine can't infect other machines on the network.

I have also noticed that when micro XP is installed as a dual boot, it modifies the existing Windows installation even if you install to a separate folder. I am still investigating exactly what it modifies.

Things like fonts and mouse cursors are affected. I think that what it removes can be replaced if desired with an SFC Scannow or a repair installation of the full XP install.

MB

Subject: Re: Micro Xp

Posted by [tubeguru](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 03:55:32 GMT

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That's true, and on a really powerful computer you might not gain that much in terms of resources. I did notice a definite increase in speed and smoothness and Paris seems a bit less buggy. Whether it actually is I will find out after more exhaustive testing. I don't really miss LAN I never used it on my DAW, and my DAW never goes on the internet. The remote services are also pretty useless on a DAW. I think the best of both worlds would be separate installations on separate partitions. Where it really seems to shine is in obsolete boxes like P2s and P3s...

MB

TCB wrote:

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 03:56:49 GMT
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no direct x or vst/midi issues? UAD card?
This makes it extremely interesting to me.

AA

"Carl Amburn" <carlamburn@NOSPAMgmail.com> wrote in message
news:486fb8f8\$1@linux...

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> Aaron Allen wrote:
>> Google the phrase * MicroXP v0.82 *
>> Looks like a bit torrent.
>>
>> AA
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Subject: Re: Micro Xp

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 03:58:14 GMT

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well, I'm thinking standalone never-touch-the-internet kind of stuff.

Production box only. For this, do you see any problems?

AA

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:487031e4\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Carl Amburn](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 04:49:03 GMT
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No issues so far. I use directX plugs, but don't use any UAD cards - although, I don't see any reason why they wouldn't work.

I also loaded some other audio programs - I haven't had any problems with anything really. Everything is quicker and smoother.

I did encounter two missing .dll files upon loading Windows Media Player 11 - of which I just found and copied the two .dll files into my system

I DO have it connected to the internet though my router right now - works great, and there was nothing to setup, other than to initially download the Firefox browser.

I'd say.... check out MicroXP fo sho.

-Carl

Aaron Allen wrote:

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 11:08:10 GMT
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doesn't the description say it does Lan networking ?

Aaron Allen wrote:

> well, I'm thinking standalone never-touch-the-internet kind of stuff.
> Production box only. For this, do you see any problems?
> AA
>
>
> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:487031e4\$1@linux...
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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 17:39:51 GMT
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Hi Thad,

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This way you have an custom installer for XP with everything taken out y7ou don't think is needed.

Also someone could just tweak their xp computer with some of the well documented tweaks and image.

This will work well if they don't change hard ware often.

Best of all these to options are total legit and don't support piracy. :)

Chris

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Chris Ludwig

ADK

chrisl@adkproaudio.com <mailto:chrisl@adkproaudio.com>

www.adkproaudio.com <http://www.adkproaudio.com/>

(859) 635-5762

Subject: Re: Micro Xp

Posted by [TCB](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 23:51:17 GMT

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What's N-lite?

TCB

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [TCB](#) on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 23:53:57 GMT
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I still want IPC share access to the machines on my home network, audio or

otherwise. And RDP comes in handy as well.

As far as P2s and P3s, that's why the good lord gave us Debian and Ubuntu. If you want a REALLY lightweight OS install, look at some of the linux distros designed for flash drives. THOSE guys are freaking studs.

TCB

tubeguru <tubeguru2006@gmail.net> wrote:

> That's true, and on a really powerful computer you might not gain that

>much in terms of resources. I did notice a definite increase in speed

>snd smoothness and Paris seems a bit less buggy. Whether it actually is

>I will find out after more exhaustive testing. I don't really miss LAN I

>never used it on my DAW, and my DAW never goes on the internet. The

>remote services are also pretty useless on a DAW. I think the best of

>both worlds would be separate installations on separate partitions.

>Where it really seems to shine is in obsolete boxes like P2s and P3s...

>MB

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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Mon, 07 Jul 2008 02:52:04 GMT
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XP services stripper. I bought the 98lite version back 'in the day'.. it
worked pretty well.

AA

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:48715a75\$1@linux...
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Subject: Re: Micro Xp
Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Mon, 07 Jul 2008 05:04:23 GMT
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Hi Thad,
N-lite is a program for making a custom xp install disk. It is basically
an advanced version of a pre-installation Windows configuration.
It lets you add and remove components, slipstream drivers and service

packs, pre-install some oem software, etc.

You can then make a custom XP or Vista installer that lets you save a lot of time if you need to do a fresh OS install.

I mainly use it at work to slip stream Raid and network drivers. Way easier than doing it with Microsoft's tools. I can't do too exotic of a setting for our PCs because some will break the Reseal function if they are disabled on the installer CD.

At home I add and pre-configure a bit more sense I don't have to worry about the reseal process.

<http://www.nliteos.com/index.html>

Chris

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