**Fix Boot – Repair MBR in Windows Recovery Environment**

### Windows Recovery Environment (WinRE) Useful Commands

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| http://www.windowsreinstall.com/winre/repaircommand/i2/index.8.jpg |
|  |
| To fix a non-booting computer try the following command which writes Windows Vista or Windows 7 boot record.  BootRec /FixBoot  http://www.windowsreinstall.com/winre/repaircommand/i/comman1.gif |
|  |
| To Fix a Windows 7 or Windows Vista MBR to the system partition use the following command  BootRec /FixMbr  http://www.windowsreinstall.com/winre/repaircommand/i/comman2.gif |
|  |
| Use this scan to find installations that are compatible with Windows Vista or Windows 7  BootRec /ScanOS  http://www.windowsreinstall.com/winre/repaircommand/i/comman3.gif |
|  |
| Use this command to add and scans all disks for installations that are compatible with Windows Vista or Windows 7  BootRec /RebuildBcd  http://www.windowsreinstall.com/winre/repaircommand/i/comman4.gif |

**How To**

- Fix the Windows Vista bootloader

- Fix the Windows 7 bootloader

- Fix the Windows 8 bootloader

\*\*\*warning – Messing with this stuff is potentially dangerous to your PC. I am not responsible for what you do.

**Option 1 – Standard Bootloader Repair**

0 – Boot from the Windows install or repair CD appropriate to you version of Windows.

**For Windows 8:**

1 – Boot from repair disc > Choose Keyboard type > click Troubleshoot > click Advanced options > choose Automatic Repair

if that fails then use:

2 -Boot from Recovery disc or Install disc

-Boot from repair disc > Chose Keyboard type > click Troubleshoot > click Advanced options > choose Command Prompt

**or**

-Boot from Install disc > Click Next > click Repair your computer > click Troubleshoot > click Advanced options > choose Command Prompt

type > bootrec /fixmbr (writes mbr but does not overwrite partition table)

type > bootrec /fixboot (writes new boot sector to system partition)

type > bootrec /scanos (scans for other OS’s that you might want to add to bcd)

(personally I find the above unneeded and only use the last step)

type > bootrec /rebuildbcd (scans for other OS’s, unlike rebuildbcd it allows you to select the OS’s you want to add to bcd)

Reboot

**For Windows 7 and Windows Vista**Boot from the repair disk > Choose keyboard and click Next > Use recovery tools… and click Next > Windows may find problems fix them and reboot, if it works great. If it didn’t work or it didn’t find problems continue on > choose Command Prompt

**or**

Boot from the Install disk > Choose keyboard and click Next > Use recovery tools… and click Next > choose Command Prompt

type > bootrec /fixmbr (writes mbr but does not overwrite partition table)

type > bootrec /fixboot (writes new boot sector to system partition)

type > bootrec /scanos (scans for other OS’s that you might want to add to bcd)

(personally I find the above unneeded and use the last step)

type > bootrec /rebuildbcd (scans for other OS’s, unlike rebuildbcd it allows you to select the OS’s you want to add to bcd)

Reboot

For more info see: Use the Bootrec.exe tool in the Windows Recovery Environment to troubleshoot and repair startup issues in Windows

**Option 2 – The Nuclear Option**

This option is basically going to give you a new MBR and bootloader. I’ve used this quite a bit. Most recently I used it after removing Windows 7 from a dual boot and moving the Windows 8 partition up (via True Image). Anyway boot as above and use these commands:

bootsect /nt60 c: /force /mbr

bcdboot c:\windows /s c:

**What these commands do:**

Writes a new mbr to c:

bootsect /nt60 c: /force /mbr

( command, /nt60 = use boot code that is compatible with BOOTMGR, / = force dismount, / = write mbr )

( bootsect does to touch mbr, it works on the selected drives…ahem….wait for it…bootsector)

Write a new bootloader to the C: drive

bcdboot c:\windows /s c:

( command, look in c:windows for files, copy files to c: (actually c:\windows\boot) )