
Subject: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 12:24:01 GMT

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Yep... My new one. I shut it down before I left to come home this weekend. It stayed at Bradley off for about a day, from Saturday at 2 to Sunday at 5ish. Turn it on Sunday... XP load bar comes up, finishes and... Light gray screen. No desktop no nothing. Restart it 50 times trying all different safe modes. Get into the Command Prompt, run a thorough Check Disk on a 400GB Hard drive. That took like 5 hours. Still didn't fix it. Reinstalled Windows XP over the old one, you know, you go into XP setup, choose the old install and press R or something. Seemed to be working, restarts, right in the middle of the "Installing Device Drivers" it asks me for the disk for me Nvidia network card. I put in my mobo's CD. Another minute passes and whammo. "OUT OF RANGE - 115HZ - 150HZ IS THIS CORRECT?", followed by my monitor going into standby mode. The XP install is still running but I can't see it, so now I need to go find someone with an LCD to hook up to it I hope. I don't even know what monitors run in that range. My monitors max is 100. Anyways, that is why I haven't been on the last two days. This post is being made from my room mates lbook laptop. That's how bad it is... I'm on a mac... I can't beleive this happened so soon. The computers like 1.5 months old...

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Zion](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 14:27:14 GMT

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Sorry to hear.

I would also recommend keeping the monitors refresh rate at 60Hz since that's the safest value.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 14:32:28 GMT

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I didn't change it. The XP setup was going along installing device drivers and wham. My monitor went black and said that message.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Caveman](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 14:39:33 GMT

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XP *should* detect if the refresh is too high for the monitor and go back to normal if you dont press ok. If you're using a GFX card try plugging the monitor into the intergraded GFX (It'll force the monitor to the highest refresh the on-board can handle).

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 14:40:55 GMT
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I don't have integrated Graphics.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Caveman](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 14:44:16 GMT
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Doitle wrote on Mon, 25 September 2006 10:40 I don't have integrated Graphics.

What about an old GFX? Something that doesn't go higher than 60Hz?

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Renx](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 15:34:37 GMT
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Reseat the video card.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [EvilWhiteDragon](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 16:47:09 GMT
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easiest way would be reinstalling windows after a format, but I think that if you're able to install videocard drivers + monitor drivers (if available) should do the trick too.
If you're unable to get into windows try the vga mode (or something similar)

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 17:10:37 GMT
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damn, your computer really hates you.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 21:20:53 GMT
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icedog90 wrote on Mon, 25 September 2006 11:10 damn, your computer really hates you.

I second that.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 22:24:45 GMT
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Like I said, it's still displaying, my CRT just can't show it... My monitor has a max refresh rate of 100hz and the error states the refresh rate is somewhere between 115 and 150hz. I don't have an old graphics card here, I'm at college again. Why would reseating the cards help?

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [jnz](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 22:38:57 GMT
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tisk tisk... windows

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Renx](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 22:49:12 GMT
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Doitle wrote on Mon, 25 September 2006 19:24Why would reseating the cards help?

It may cause the refresh rate to reset.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Caveman](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 23:39:17 GMT
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help-linux wrote on Mon, 25 September 2006 17:38tisk tisk... windows

If you haven't got anything useful to type then please keep it to yourself. You aren't exactly helping matters are you.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [jnz](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 23:41:57 GMT
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oh come on poeple n other threads have been saying things they can't prove. you dont realy think that my post stands out from them all do you?

get another grafix card

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Caveman](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 23:48:02 GMT
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help-linux wrote on Tue, 26 September 2006 00:41oh come on poeple n other threads have been saying things they can't prove. you dont really think that my post stands out from them all do you?

get another grafix card

The point is, all you have managed to do is post spam that wasn't needed. Getting another GFX card isn't going to help matters at all unless he buys an old card like a GF2 TI4200 that can't reach 100+Hz.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [jnz](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 23:49:59 GMT
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get a NVidia 6200 it has served me well.

i have reinstalled windows and linux pratically 100's of times and not once did it ask me for drivers during installation.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Caveman](#) on Mon, 25 Sep 2006 23:55:38 GMT
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It doesn't ask for the GFX drivers because Windows already has them. (Default ones) Once you've installed windows/linux you then install the newer, up to date drivers for your card.

Going out and buying a new GFX is a waste of money.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 00:34:38 GMT
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Get a new graphics card? These are 1 and a half month old SLI'd 7900GTs... I'm not gonna go buy a 6200... I checked the error again, it's actually 95 hz in one direction, and 120hz in the other. I'm the only person on campus with a CRT it seems... Everyone has laptops, and the two kids with actual desktops have LCDs...

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 00:38:41 GMT
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I suggest finding another method, like RenX's. You can't expect to find a monitor that will support that refresh rate.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 03:10:16 GMT
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Ok, I will try reseating them. Should I actually reverse their order?

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Zion](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 09:36:32 GMT
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Un-SLI them untill you have a working operating system in it or take the hard drive out and install the drivers.

I just got a 6200 and it never asked me for drivers.

If not, then get/borrow an OEM version of Windows.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [ADM](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 14:13:10 GMT
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I've heard that Windows XP setup had problems with SLI configured motherboards/video cards. Try searching on Google for the problem, there was a solution to this issue a couple of months ago. If you haven't already tried installing Windows with only one of the video cards, I'd try that.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...
Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 14:30:44 GMT
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Install completed with only one Video card installed, however I've got a new, more imposing problem. I don't have my Product Key anymore... I'm at college, and the few things I did bring, it is not with. It has to be at home somewhere, and my mom can't find it. So... until I go home in mid October I've got no computer :/...

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Renx](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 15:50:20 GMT

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You'll be going home in less than 30 days. Get a warez key and just don't try to activate it.

ADM that was his problem. We figured it was doubling the refresh rate because there was twice as many video cards. Whether that's what it was actually doing or not doesn't matter I guess..

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Jonty](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 16:10:14 GMT

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Renx wrote on Tue, 26 September 2006 16:50Get a warez key and just don't try to activate it. Aye, and you can easily change the product key to a legitimate one once you get it. That said, there are product keys out there that don't require activation...

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 20:07:33 GMT

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The problem is I beleive, since this is a repair install. It knows what my key is, it's asking to make sure I am repairing the same install and will be using it again... So I need to have my key. I've tried so many bunk keys because I figured I could use it till I could get home, switch the keys in the registry to my real key, then reactivate. I guess that ideas out though... :/

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [jnz](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 20:12:44 GMT

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different builds have a different alithrigram in finding keys, i download windows from p2p and use the key provided.

make sure if you do this to not install the patch that detects pirate versions of windows

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 20:15:48 GMT

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These are XP Pro SP2 keys that I'm using the same one I have. Also I can't download another version of windows anyhow, I dont have a working computer to torrent with and even if I did torrent files are blocked by Bradley's network so I can't actually download the .torrent file to start downloading. This really blows... to the max

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Zion](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2006 20:29:16 GMT

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I can imagine.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 28 Sep 2006 16:29:09 GMT

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Just do a clean install without reformatting the hard-drive. A repair or a nondestructive install take about the same time anyway. A Windows OS installed on a 400GB hard-drive is a bad set-up in the first place. You should have a small cheep hard-drive for the OS and use the 400GB for storage. The way windows constantly calls on the hard-drive, will only ware it out before it's time. I agree with the persons who suggested to re-seat and reset the video-cards. Using just one card till you are sure the system is configured properly. Double check your motherboards forum or documentation for any jumpers that may need to be moved. I have to move a large jumper when switching from single to SLI mode.

I would also revert back to the drivers that shipped with the video-card and run dxdiag to make sure directx is installed properly.

Or maybe this would be a good time to borrow a Linux distribution disk from a fellow student.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [jnz](#) on Thu, 28 Sep 2006 16:30:57 GMT

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Doitle wrote on Tue, 26 September 2006 21:15These are XP Pro SP2 keys that I'm using the same one I have. Also I can't download another version of windows anyhow, I dont have a working computer to torrent with and even if I did torrent files are blocked by Bradley's network so I can't actually download the .torrent file to start downloading. This really blows... to the max

i have the iso, is there a way i could get it to you?

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [mision08](#) on Thu, 28 Sep 2006 18:14:26 GMT

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I don't think that is how the keys are categorized. I believe they are broken up into retail, OEM, or hmmm what the hell. The version that doesn't need to be activated because the company, buys a bulk license agreement but uses the same disk to install on multiple computers. Unless the ISO matches the latter, it isn't going to work without the product key that the image was produced from.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Thu, 28 Sep 2006 19:38:06 GMT

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Thanks for all the offers and suggestions guys. I got it fixed. I removed one video card and setup continued. There's a problem with XP Setup on SLI systems. It was setting the refresh to 60 per video card, or 120hz total. Upon removing it I got through the setup to the point where I reenter my key, but because it was gone I couldn't. I finally called Microsoft, they regenerated a key for me and I'm good to go. I couldn't believe how good Microsoft was about it. No hassle at all.

Subject: Re: Computer Died Again...

Posted by [mision08](#) on Fri, 29 Sep 2006 04:45:28 GMT

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Well hell, call them tomorrow and see if they'll generate another one for you. You may have the first fool proof keygen for Windows. I don't know what I was thinking. A fresh install wouldn't change a damn thing. Once you lose the activation you have to enter the key, and it Windows generates a hash to reflect your hardware. Then it has to phone home with this information no matter what. Windows has a points system it uses for your hardware configuration that's fairly interesting.
