

Install Windows 7 and Vista From USB Drive

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This guide works 100% for Vista & Windows 7 unlike most of the guides out there. I have seen many sites/blogs that have "Install Vista from USB guide" but either with incomplete steps or not working guide. I have also seen some guides that don't use proper commands in this guide. After spending many hours I have come up with this 100% working guide.



I just did this method on one of my friends machine and installed the new Windows 7 BETA. The main advantage is that by using USB drive you will be able to install Windows 7/Vista in just 15 minutes. You can also use this bootable USB drive on friend's computer who doesn't have a DVD optical drive. The method is very simple and you can use without any hassles. Needless to say that your motherboard should support USB Boot feature to make use of the bootable USB drive.

Requirements

- *USB Flash Drive (Minimum 4GB)
- *Windows 7 or Vista installation files.

Follow the below steps to create bootable Windows 7/Vista USB drive using which you can install Windows 7/Vista easily.

1. Plug-in your USB flash drive to USB port and move all the contents from USB drive to a safe location on your system.
2. Open Command Prompt with admin rights. Use any of the below methods to open Command Prompt with admin rights.

*Type cmd in Start menu search box and hit Ctrl+ Shift+ Enter.

Or

*Go to Start menu > All programs > Accessories, right click on Command Prompt and select Run as administrator.

3. You need to know about the USB drive a little bit. Type in the following commands in the command prompt:

First type **DISKPART** and hit enter to see the below message.

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7000]
Copyright (c) 2006 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>DISKPART

Microsoft DiskPart version 6.1.7000
Copyright (C) 1999-2008 Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: HOME-PC

DISKPART>
```

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Next type **LIST DISK** command and note down the Disk number (ex: Disk 1) of your USB flash drive. In the below screenshot my Flash Drive Disk no is Disk 1.

- Next type all the below commands one by one. Here I assume that your disk drive no is "Disk 1". If you have Disk 2 as your USB flash drive then use Disk 2. Refer the above step to confirm it. So below are the commands you need to type and execute one by one:

```
SELECT DISK 1
CLEAN
CREATE PARTITION PRIMARY
SELECT PARTITION 1
ACTIVE
FORMAT FS=NTFS
ASSIGN
EXIT
```

Don't close the command prompt as we need to execute one more command at the next step. Just minimize it.

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7000]
Copyright (c) 2006 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>DISKPART

Microsoft DiskPart version 6.1.7000
Copyright (C) 1999-2008 Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: HOME-PC

DISKPART> LIST DISK

   Disk ###  Status              Size               Free              Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online              298 GB             0 B
   Disk 1    Online              3836 MB            0 B

DISKPART> SELECT DISK 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> CLEAN

DiskPart succeeded in cleaning the disk.

DISKPART> CREATE PARTITION PRIMARY

DiskPart succeeded in creating the specified partition.

DISKPART> SELECT PARTITION

The arguments specified for this command are not valid.
For more information on the command type: HELP SELECT PARTITION

Partition 1 is now the selected partition.

DISKPART> ACTIVE

DiskPart marked the current partition as active.

DISKPART> FORMAT FS=NTFS

   100 percent completed

DiskPart successfully formatted the volume.
```

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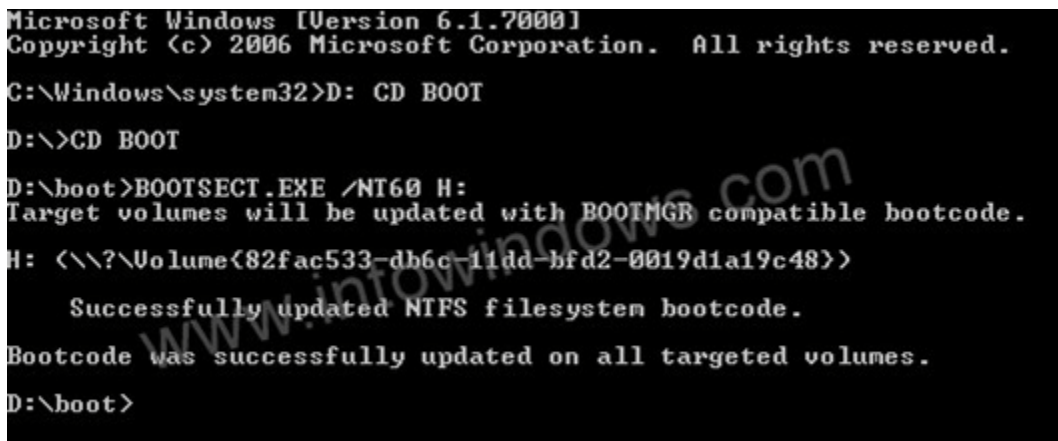
5. Next insert your Windows7/Vista DVD into the optical drive and check the drive letter of the DVD drive. In this guide I will assume that your DVD drive letter is "D" and USB drive letter is "H" (open my computer to know about it).

6. Maximize the minimized Command Prompt in the 4th step. Type the following command now:

**D: CD BOOT and hit enter. Where "D" is your DVD drive letter.
CD BOOT and hit enter to see the below message.**

7. Type another command given below to update the USB drive with BOOTMGR compatible code.

BOOTSECT.EXE/NT60 H:



```
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7000]
Copyright (c) 2006 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>D: CD BOOT
D:\>CD BOOT
D:\boot>BOOTSECT.EXE /NT60 H:
Target volumes will be updated with BOOTMGR compatible bootcode.
H: <\\?\Volume{82fac533-db6c-11dd-bfd2-0019d1a19c48}>
    Successfully updated NTFS filesystem bootcode.
Bootcode was successfully updated on all targeted volumes.
D:\boot>
```

Where "H" is your USB drive letter. Once you enter the above command you will see the below message.

8. Copy your Windows 7/Vista DVD contents to the USB flash drive.

9. Your USB drive is ready to boot and install Windows 7/Vista. Only thing you need to change the boot priority at the BIOS to USB from the HDD or CD ROM drive. I won't explain it as it's just the matter the changing the boot priority or enabling the USB boot option in the BIOS.

Note: If you are not able to boot after following this guide means you haven't set the BIOS priority to USB. If you got any problem in following this guide feel free to ask questions by leaving comment.

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How To Create Bootable Windows 7 USB To Install Windows 7 From USB Flash Drive (Using Windows 7 DVD/USB Tool)

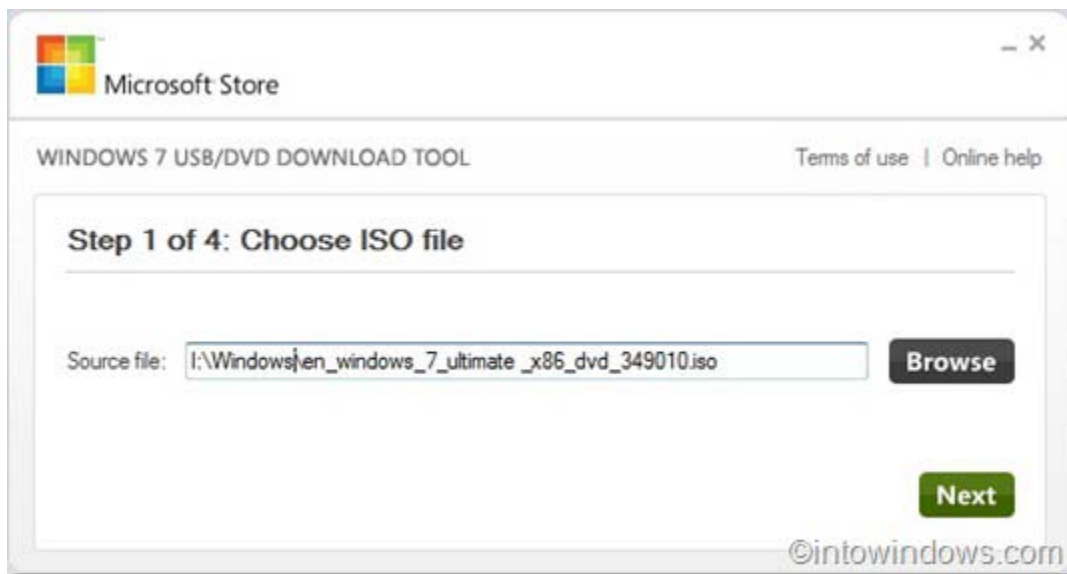
As we reported earlier, Microsoft released a free tool called Windows 7 USB/DVD Download Tool to help you install Windows 7 on all netbooks in simple steps.



Although you can refer our how to install Windows 7 from USB guide to do the same, this tool simplifies the job. Here are the five simple steps that you need to follow to create a bootable USB flash drive to install Windows 7 from USB device:

Note: You need a USB flash drive with a minimum of 4 GB of free space. And also please backup your data from USB first.

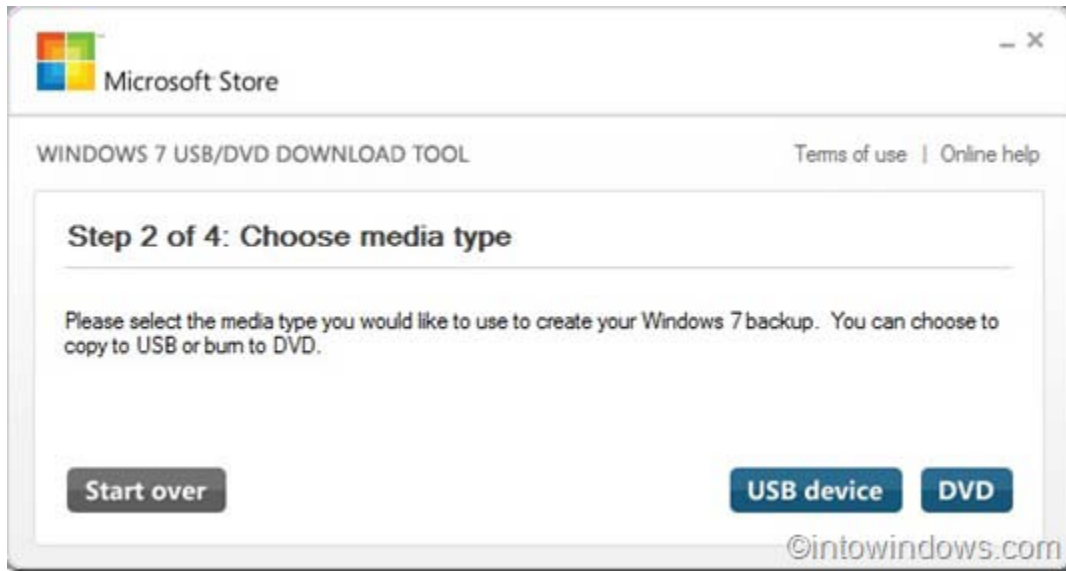
1. Download Windows 7 USB/DVD Tool and install it.
2. Run the program, browse to your Windows 7 ISO image using the Browse button.



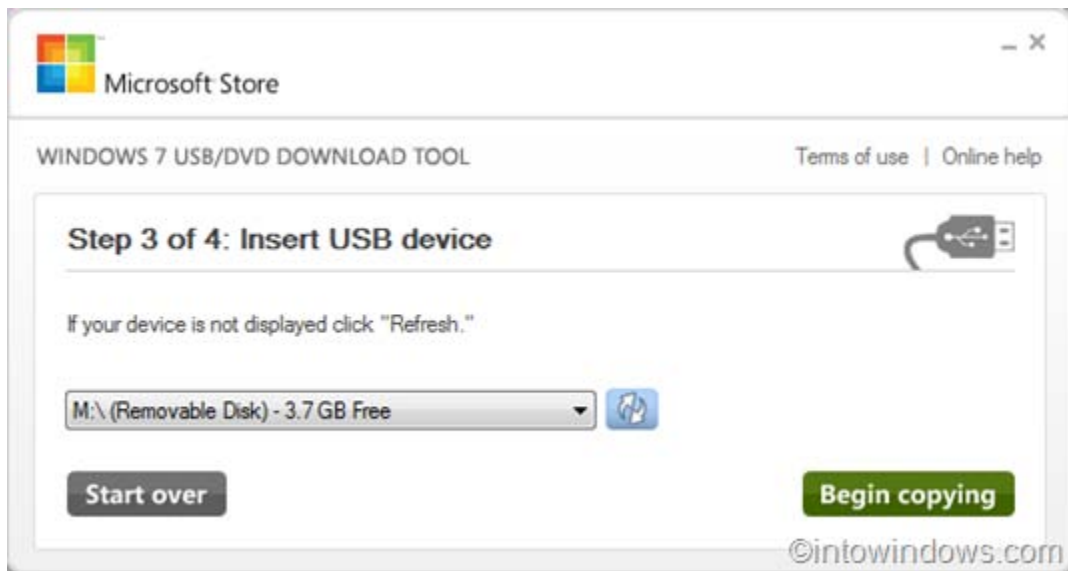
3. In this step, you need to select your media type. As we are here to create a bootable USB, simply click on USB device button.

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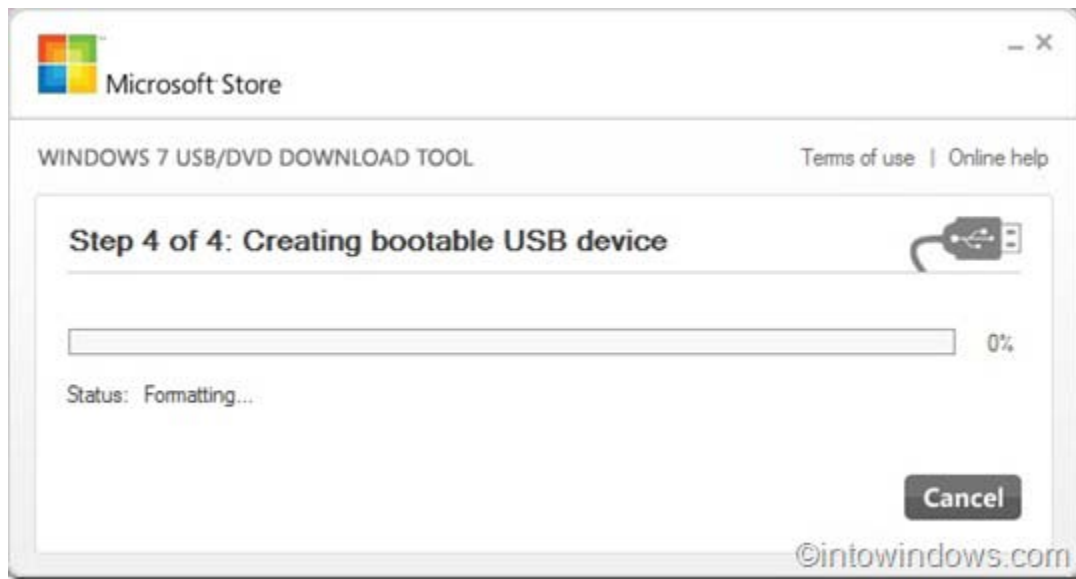
4. Select your USB flash drive from the drop down box and click on Begin copying button.



5. The Windows 7 USB/DVD tool will take a few minutes to complete the procedure.

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6. You are done. Reboot you machine and start installing Windows 7 (Windows 7 installation procedure).