

Recovery from NTLDR Missing Error

Observations

You power up your computer and receive the following message/s:

- NTLDR Is Missing
- Couldn't find NTLDR

Possible Causes

This problem occurs when one or more of the following boot up files are missing:

- NTLDR
- Ntdetect.com
- Boot.ini

Resolution: Generally there are 2 methods to resolve this issue.

a. Manual File Re-Patching

this method attempts to copy and replace the corrupted file from the Windows Installation disc to your hard disk. To start, follow these steps:

1. Insert the Windows 2000, 2003 or Windows XP CD into your computer as default boot up media.
2. Enter Windows Recovery Console
3. At the command prompt, assuming drive D refers to your CD

Drive type in the following and hit Enter. Press Y when prompted to overwrite any existing file.

```
$ copy D:\i386\ntldr C:\
```

```
$ copy D:\i386\ntdetect.com C:\
```

```
$ Restart the computer
```

If the error message still persists, it is likely that your boot.ini file is corrupted. Try to fix your corrupted boot.ini file instead.

b. Using Windows – Repair Install

This Windows Repair Install overwrites all system files in your computer, leaving your installed applications, data files and settings intact. However, you will lose previously saved system restore points and service pack updates. You may need to re-apply the system updates after this procedure.

How To Perform A Repair Installation?

To start off, follow these steps:

As an example, For Windows 2000 Users:

c. Enter the Windows 2000 CD into your computer

d. Boot up from the CD. See how to select boot device if you are not sure how to do this.

e. At the Windows Setup menu, hit Enter to setup Windows 2000

f. Press F8 to agree to the End User License Agreement

g. At the next screen, press R to perform a repair installation

Setup will now attempt to copy all necessary files into your disk, reboot the computer and commence the repair installation.