

Put Safe Mode in the standard boot menu of Windows XP

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Although you can choose it quite easily, you must pay attention and press **F8** at the right time while the system is booting (usually most users will press **F8** continuously from the time the machine starts to boot to Don't miss this sensitive moment). Then a menu will appear and you must select **Safe Mode boot mode** in this menu.

What do you think if we shorten these operations by putting Safe Mode boot into Windows XP's standard boot menu (Usually this menu only appears when you install 2 operating systems on one machine that allow you to select boot operating system)? It will certainly be convenient. You only need to do the following:

1. Open the **System Properties** dialog box (go to **System** in **Control Panel** or right-click **My Computer** and click **Properties**).
1. On tab **Advanced** , click the **Setting** button in the **Startup And Recovery area** .
1. In the **System Startup** area, click the **Edit** button (open the **Boot.ini** file).
1. When the **Boot.ini** file opens in **Notepad** , find the line that ends with the / **fastdetect** switch.
1. Highlight and copy the line, then paste it down below.
1. Change **WINDOWS = 'Microsoft Windows XP Professional'** to **WINDOWS = 'Safe Mode'** .
1. Then add the command / **safeboot: minimal / sos / bootlog** at the end of this line.

After completing the file **Boot.ini** has 2 lines as follows:

```
multi (0) disk (0) rdisk (0) partition (2) WINDOWS = "Microsoft Windows XP Professional" / fastdetect
```

```
multi (0) disk (0) rdisk (0) partition (2) WINDOWS = "Safe Mode" / safeboot: minimal / sos / bootlog
```

On the next time you boot up, you will have two boot options, one for **Windows XP** and one for **Safe Mode** .

```
Please select the operating system to start:

Microsoft Windows XP Professional
Safe Mode

Use the up and down arrow keys to move the highlight to your choice.
Press ENTER to choose.
Seconds until highlighted choice will be started automatically: 12

For troubleshooting and advanced startup options for Windows, press F8.
```

Note:

In addition to the steps to access the above **Boot.ini** file, you can access it faster by opening the **My Computer** window, then entering the **C: Boot.ini path** into the address bar and pressing **Enter** .

To remove the **Safe Mode** boot **mode option** in the boot menu, simply access the **Boot.ini** file again and black out the line containing **WINDOWS = 'Safe Mode'** and delete it. Then save the changes to the **Boot.ini** file.

If your computer installs multiple operating systems, you can also use this method to not select the operating system, or change the default time the system will make the choice for you.

For example, you install **Windows XP** and **Windows 2000** on the same machine. To remove **Windows 2000** , simply go to the **Boot.ini** file and delete the line containing **WINDOWS = 'Windows 2000'** .

To change how long the system selects the operating system to boot, you access the **Boot.ini** file, at the **timeout** line set the amount of time you want (in seconds, the default is 30 seconds). Then save the changes to the **Boot.ini** file.

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