Linux Mint Forums
Welcome to the Linux Mint support forums!

Search… 🔍 ⚙

☰ Quick links ❓ FAQ   ✏ Register ⏻ Login

🏠 Board index ‹ Main Edition Support ‹ Tutorials

How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

Forum rules
Don't add support questions to tutorials; start your own topic in the appropriate sub-forum instead. Before you post read forum rules

Locked 🔒 | 🔧 | ▾ | Search this topic… 🔍 ⚙   11 posts • Page **1** of **1**

cypher-neo

How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

📄 by **cypher-neo** » Wed Mar 12, 2014 11:24 am

I've seen so many users need this advice, I decided to write a tutorial about it. This is a common problem, especially for users who dual-boot with Windows. Windows loves updating itself with innocent sounding updates, but occasionally on these innocent updates Windows will overwrite the bootloader (rendering the computer unbootable, or only able to boot Windows). Here's the fix!

You will need a Mint Live disc, or Live USB.

1. 1. Boot into your Linux LiveCD (best to use the same version as the one you are recovering).

- 2. Open Terminal and type:

CODE: SELECT ALL
```
sudo fdisk -l
```

- 3. Under this list you can see which one is the Linux Mint partition. It's usually /dev/sda1/ unless you are dual-booting.
  You need to mount the Linux Mint partition so you can access it. To do this, type:

(Replace X with the correct letter, and Y with the correct number)

CODE: SELECT ALL
```
sudo mount /dev/sdXY /mnt
```

- 4. Now you need to tell Linux Mint to install grub2 to the partition you just mounted. To do this, type:

(replace X with correct letter) (It is IMPORTANT that you do NOT enter any number, just the letter of the partition)

CODE: SELECT ALL

```
sudo grub-install --root-directory=/mnt/ /dev/sdX
```

- 5. Now reboot the computer. You should see a GRUB menu pop up when the reboot is done.

- 6. If the list is not complete, or if you are dual-booting you may need to refresh GRUB so it detects any Windows partitions. To do this, log in, and open a Terminal and type:
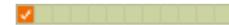
CODE: SELECT ALL

```
sudo update-grub
```

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

by **jimvgill** » Thu Oct 29, 2020 4:43 pm

This was an excellent tutorial! Solved my problem. Thank you!@ 😃

jimvgill
Level 1

Posts: 6
Joined: Fri Feb 26, 2016 2:39 pm

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

by **ibmjayhill** » Sun Jul 18, 2021 10:28 pm

Thank You!! Worked like a champ. 😃

ibmjayhill

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

by **AndyMH** » Mon Jul 19, 2021 6:32 am

I believe this will only work with legacy boot, UEFI is a bit more complicated.

Thinkcentre M720Q - LM22.1 cinnamon, 4 x T430 - LM22.1 & LM21.3 cinnamon.

AndyMH
Level 22

Posts: 16021
Joined: Fri Mar 04, 2016 5:23 pm
Location: Wiltshire

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

by **drrummer** » Sat Oct 02, 2021 1:37 pm

Sudo not found.

drrummer

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

by **all41** » Sat Oct 02, 2021 1:57 pm

all41
Level 20

Posts: 11228

Joined: Tue Dec 31, 2013 9:12 am
Location: Computer, Car, Cage

> **66 drrummer wrote:** ⤴   Sat Oct 02, 2021 1:37 pm
>
> Sudo not found.

sudo should not be capitalized
Now days just boot into live desktop mode using your install .iso flash or dvd
and run the Boot Repair utility from the menu

Everything in life was difficult before it became easy.
Be excellent to each other

○

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

🗎 by **drrummer** » Sat Oct 02, 2021 3:27 pm

I didn't when I typed in the cmd window.

drrummer

○

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

🗎 by **all41** » Sat Oct 02, 2021 5:53 pm

> **66 drrummer wrote:** ⤴   Sat Oct 02, 2021 3:27 pm
>
> I didn't when I typed in the cmd window.

cmd window?? Did you try to run those commands in Windows? (cmd.exe)
The tutorial instructs those to be run while booted to a live desktop using your
install flash/dvd

Everything in life was difficult before it became easy.
Be excellent to each other

all41
Level 20
▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮☑

Posts: 11228
Joined: Tue Dec 31, 2013 9:12 am
Location: Computer, Car, Cage

○

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

🗎 by **t42** » Sat Oct 02, 2021 5:58 pm

you are here:
Board index - Main Edition Support - Tutorials

> **66**
> Forum rules
> Please don't add support questions to tutorials,start your own thread in the
> appropriate sub-forum instead. Before you post please read this

---

-=t42=-

t42
Level 14
▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮☑

Posts: 5068
Joined: Mon Jan 20, 2014 6:48 pm

○

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

drrummer

by **drrummer** » Sat Oct 02, 2021 6:15 pm

> **66 all41 wrote:** ↑   Sat Oct 02, 2021 5:53 pm
>
> > **66 drrummer wrote:** ↑   Sat Oct 02, 2021 3:27 pm
> > I didn't when I typed in the cmd window.
>
> cmd window?? Did you try to run those commands in Windows? (cmd.exe)
> The tutorial instructs those to be run while booted to a live desktop using
> your install flash/dvd

No. I used the Linux cmd window.

❍

Re: How To: Repair a Broken Bootloader

by **Moem** » Sat Oct 02, 2021 7:29 pm

Mod note:
This is a tutorial topic, which means it's not a place to ask questions (see the
hint in the pink box near the top of the page). It's also years old and may be
outdated. Locking the thread now.

Moem
Level 22

Posts: 17153
Joined: Tue Nov 17, 2015 9:14 am
Location: The Netherlands
Contact: 💬

If your issue is solved, kindly indicate that by editing the **first post** in the topic, and adding
[SOLVED] to the title. Thanks!

❍

Locked 🔒   🔧 ▾   ↓≡ ▾

11 posts • Page **1** of **1**

‹ Return to "Tutorials"

Jump to ▾

🏠 **Board index**   ✉ Contact us   🗑 Delete cookies All times are UTC-04:00