

How to manually disable Windows Genuine Advantage on Windows XP SP2

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I have a pirate version of Windows XP Pro 2 installer CD which does automatically turn on **Windows Genuine Advantage**

This is kind of annoying as the computer gets really slow and the hard disk drive activite gets intensive as well as an annoying popup message that the Windows XP copy is not genuine does appear periodically

In order to get rid of the message I had to do the following steps:

1. Get into Windows Safe Mode without Networking

As most of the people knows this is achieved by pressing **F8** keyboard key right before the Windows bootup screen appears.

After in Safe mode it's necessary to,

2. Run Windows Command Line (cmd.exe)

To do so follow, the menus:

Windows (Start Menu) -> Run -> cmd.exe

3. In the command prompt window issue the commands:

```
C:\Documents and Settings\User> cd \Windows\System32
```

```
C:\Windows\System32> taskkill -IM wgastray.exe  
C:\Windows\System32> del wgastray.exe  
C:\Windows\System32> move wgalogon.dll wgalogon.dll.old  
C:\Windows\System32> del wgalogon.dll.old
```

Something to mention is you have to be really quick, with deleting wgalogon.dll, cause wgastray.exe is scheduled to run every 1 / 2 seconds :) It is a bit of situation of type "be quick or be dead" as Maiden used to sing :)

A Windows system restart and Hooray the Windows Genuine message is gone :)