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KB5028997: Instructions to manually resize your partition to install the WinRE update

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Summary

Microsoft has changed how it updates PCs that run the Windows Recovery Environment (WinRE). WinRE will be updated using the monthly cumulative update. This change only applies to PCs that get updates from Windows Update (WU) and Windows Server Update Services (WSUS). This change starts on June 27, 2023, for the Windows 11, version 22H2 cumulative update.

Some PCs might not have a recovery partition that is large enough to complete this update. Because of this, the update for WinRE might fail. You will receive the error message, "Windows Recovery Environment servicing failed." To help you recover from this failure, this article provides instructions to manually resize your recovery partition if you get a system ErrorPhase of 2. This requires your device to have the recovery partition after the OS partition. Use the steps below to verify this.

Manually resize your partition by 250 MB

1. Open a Command Prompt window (cmd) as admin.
2. To check the WinRE status, run `reagentc /info`. If the WinRE is installed, there should be a "Windows RE location" with a path to the WinRE directory. An example is, "Windows RE location: [file:///GLOBALROOT/device/harddisk0/partition4/Recovery/WindowsRE]\\?\\GLOBALROOT\\device\\harddisk0\\partition4\\Recovery\\WindowsRE." Here, the number after "harddisk" and "partition" is the index of the disk and partition WinRE is on.
3. To disable the WinRE, run `reagentc /disable`
4. Shrink the OS partition and prepare the disk for a new recovery partition.
 - a. To shrink the OS, run `diskpart`
 - b. Run `list disk`
 - c. To select the OS disk, run `sel disk<OS disk index>` This should be the same disk index as WinRE.
 - d. To check the partition under the OS disk and find the OS partition, run `list part`

- e. To select the OS partition, run `sel part<OS partition index>`
 - f. Run `shrink desired=250 minimum=250`
 - g. To select the WinRE partition, run `sel part<WinRE partition index>`
 - h. To delete the WinRE partition, run `delete partition override`
5. Create a new recovery partition.
- a. First, check if the disk partition style is a GUID Partition Table (GPT) or a Master Boot Record (MBR). To do that, run `list disk`. Check if there is an asterisk character (*) in the "Gpt" column. If there is an asterisk character (*), then the drive is GPT. Otherwise, the drive is MBR.
 - i. If your disk is GPT, run `create partition primary id=de94bba4-06d1-4d40-a16a-bfd50179d6ac` followed by the command `gpt attributes =0x8000000000000001`
 - ii. If your disk is MBR, run `create partition primary id=27`
 - b. To format the partition, run `format quick fs=ntfs label="Windows RE tools"`
6. To confirm that the WinRE partition is created, run `list vol`
7. To exit from diskpart, run `exit`
8. To re-enable WinRE, run `reagentc /enable`
9. To confirm where WinRE is installed, run `reagentc /info`

Note If creation failed or you do not want to extend the WinRE partition, run `reagentc /enable` to re-enable WinRE.



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