

## Video - Multiboot (6 min)

I'm running a Windows 7 computer, but I'd like to create a Multiboot system installing Windows 8.1 to a second hard drive. I've added the second hard drive to my system, so before I get started, I'll need to initialize my new hard drive. I'll go to the Control Panel, System and Security, I'll go down to Administrative Tools, and click on Create and format hard disk partitions. You can see the system recognizes the new hard drive. I'll need to choose a partition style.

For this particular exercise, I'll use the older MBR, Master Boot Record partition style. I'll need to do this because my BIOS does not support the compatibility mode needed to run the GUID Partition Table. So I'll leave it as the Master Boot Record, and click OK. I'll stretch open the window, and you can see that I now have a second hard disk, Disk 1, with unallocated space. I'll close the window, return to Computer, and you can see that I've already placed my Windows 8.1 installation media DVD in the DVD Drive. I'll need to restart my system now, and boot to the DVD Drive.

On your particular system, you may need to change the boot order in your BIOS to enable booting from your optical drive. I'll restart the system. I've reached the Windows setup screen for installing Windows 8. I'll accept the default language, time, and keyboard input method, and click Next. I'll click Install Now. I'll need to add my product key. I've entered my product key, and I'll now click Next. Checkmark that I accept the license terms, press Next. In this next screen, I need to choose between which type of installation I want. Since I'm not upgrading Windows 7 to Windows 8.1, and rather installing Windows 8.1 on a second hard drive, I'll choose Custom: Install Windows only (advanced).

Now I can choose where I want to install Windows 8.1. You can see that the second hard drive that I installed shows up as Drive 1 Unallocated Space. I'll select it and press Next. You can see that I've successfully installed Windows 8.1. You can see my Windows 7 system here. Currently, my settings give me 29 seconds to decide which system I want to boot to. Let's try and boot to Windows 8.1.

As you can see, Windows 8.1 installed perfectly. I'll go to the Start Menu and right click, I'll go to System, Advanced System Settings, and now I can go to the Startup and Recovery options. Click Settings, and I can choose the default operating system that I want to startup. If I want to startup with Windows 7, I'll choose that. The amount of time that I have to choose between operating systems, currently I have it set to 30 seconds. I can modify that here if I want. I'll click OK, and OK. Let's see what happens when I restart the system. I'll click Start, and Restart. And you can see I'm given a choice of whether to boot into Windows 8.1 or Windows 7. I'll choose Windows 7 this time. Back in Windows 7, I'll click Start, type in msconfig, and hit Enter. Using the System Configuration tool, I can click on Boot, and you can see both operating systems listed under this Boot menu, Windows 8 or Windows 7. I can choose which one to set as default using this tool. I can also change how long it will take before the system times out and the default operating system is launched. I'll keep it set to the default settings. I now have a Multiboot system in which I can boot to either Windows 7 or Windows 8.