

Find the “Boot Override” Section Of Your Computer’s BIOS

If you are here, then you already know how to “Get In and Out of BIOS” mode when your computer starts up.

If not, go find the previous document that describes that.

Why do we want to “Override”?

When computer starts, and the BIOS is running (it runs even when you don’t see it run because you didn’t stop it), one of its main responsibilities it has, is to find and load or prepare the operating system (typically Windows) so that you finally see the Windows login or desktop on your screen.

Typically, the operating system is saved on an internal hard disk.

In fact, there may be more than one hard disk in the computer.

There may also be a CD, CD-R, or DVD player in the computer.

All of those devices AND anything in a USB slot, could be a candidate the BIOS can search to start up the operating system (like Windows).

Sooo.. most BIOSes have a list of what’s called a “boot order”.

This means that the BIOS will try device #1 to see if it can start up (“Windows”), and if that fails, it tries device #2, and so on until it exhausts its list of devices to look at.

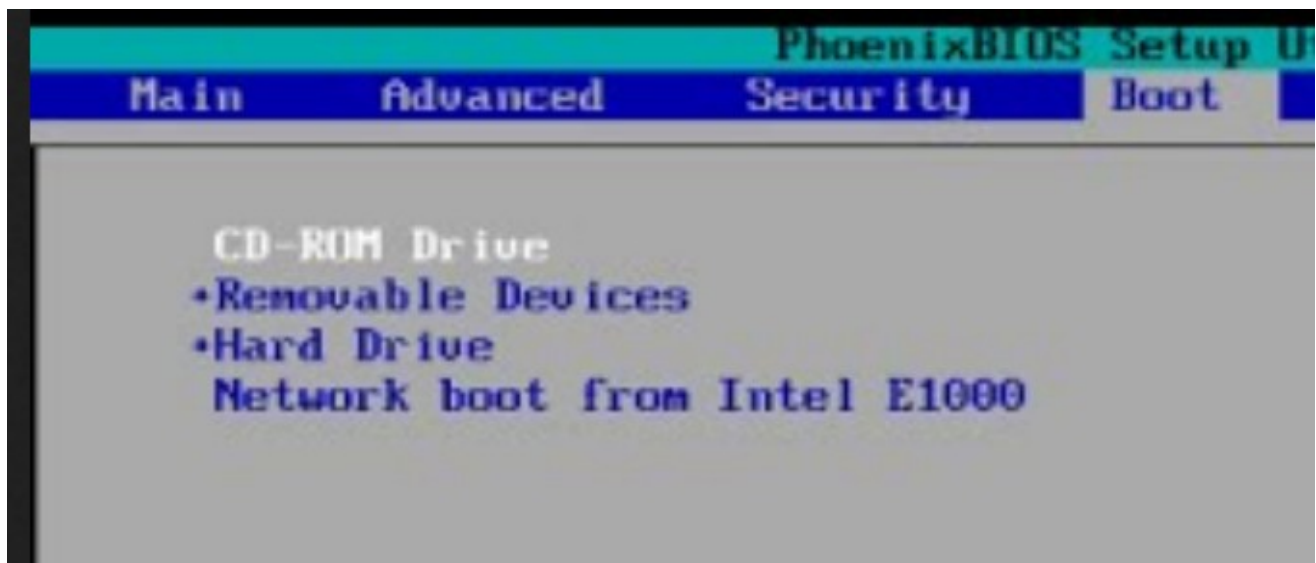
KEY CONCEPT: We just described the NORMAL device boot order. We never want to CHANGE that. That is why all the fuss about “exit without saving” (in previous document).

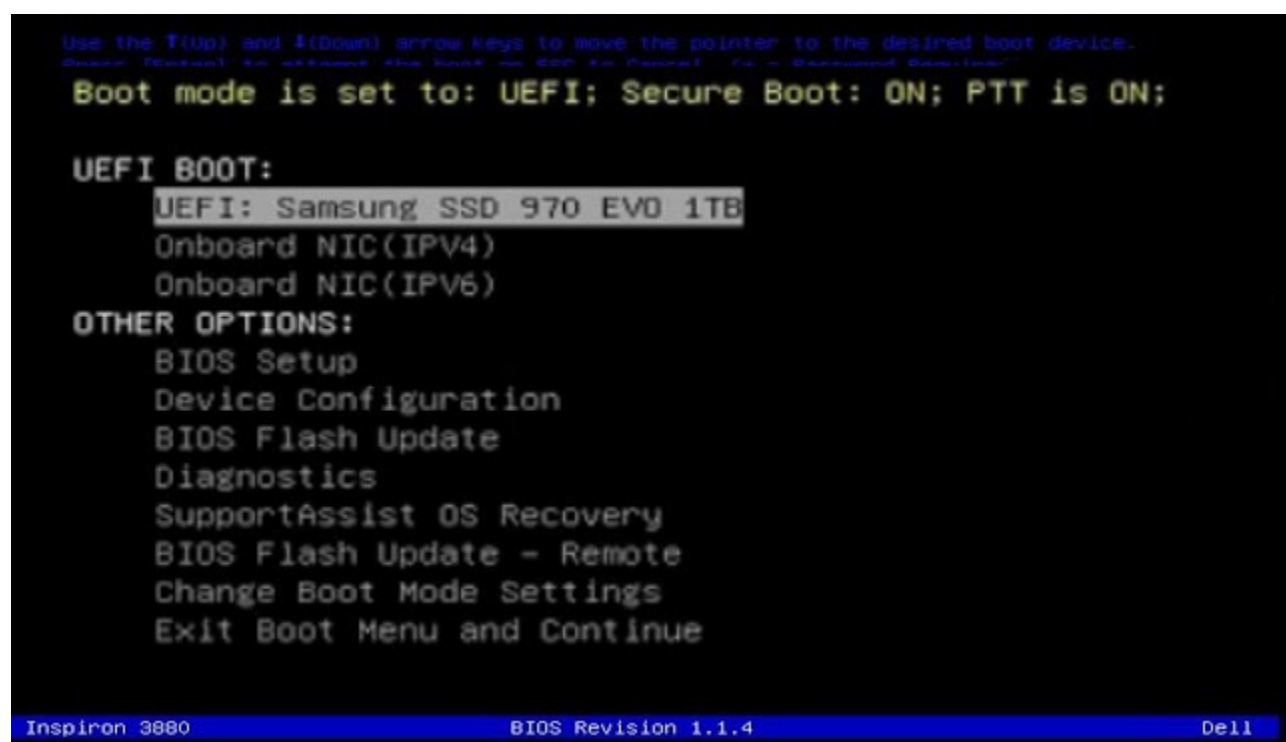
KEY CONCEPT: We want to temporarily Override the normal boot order, when we have inserted (in the future) our new USB Ubuntu Linux stick.

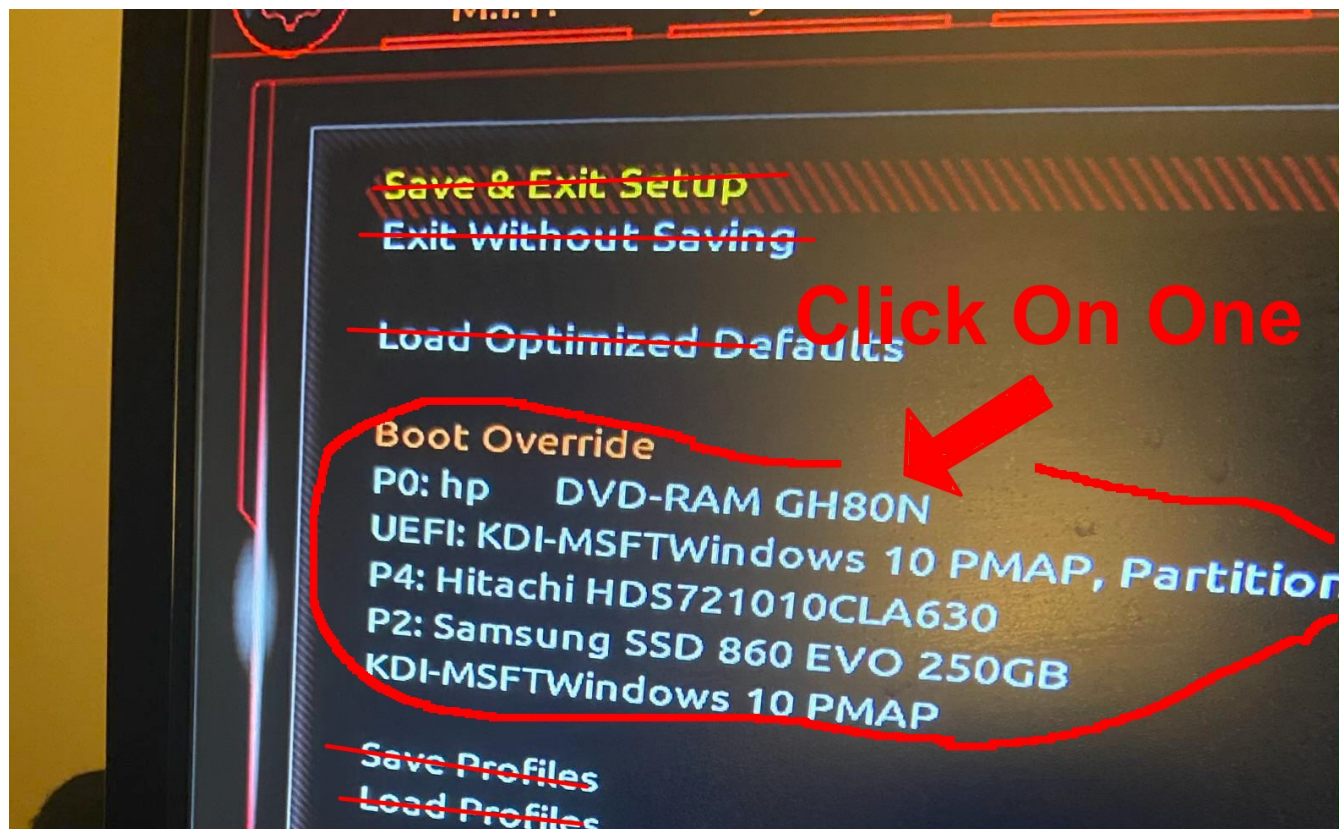
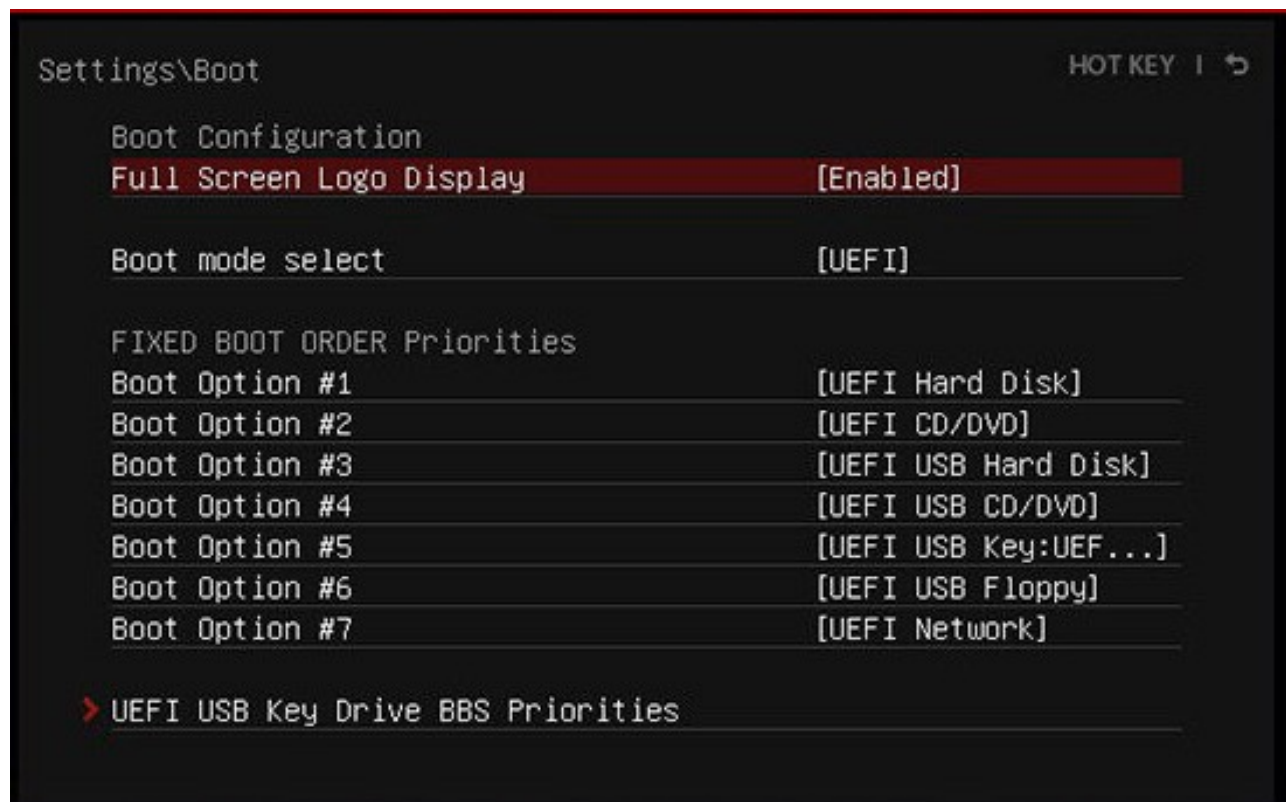
KEY CONCEPT: If we do not Override the boot order, the computer will start up as normal, as it has always done.

KEY CONCEPT: So we Override when we want to run Ubuntu, and we DONT when we want to use the computer as we have under normal use.

Here are some examples of **normal** BIOS boot order:







Now that you know how to get in and out of BIOS without saving anything, you should feel comfortable enough to hunt around a click on various tabs, buttons, links, to figure out where is the section that helps you Override the boot order.