

Stop Windows Bootup/Startup – AKA Get Into and Out of BIOS

Many computers (not Macs) start up/boot first into “BIOS” and then the BIOS finds and reads what’s in the internal hard disk drive, and from that, loads the operating system – typically Windows.

In order to see if you will be able to divert that start up and temporarily boot from a (future) USB Ubuntu Linux, you have to first become familiar enough with the BIOS to get into and out of it, when the computer is starting up on power-on.

STOP!!: ONLY READ, DON'T DO, UNTIL DOC SAYS “OK, DO IT”

First read some of this document so that you are familiar, before actually attempting anything. You will be told when you can start doing.

Step 1: Make Sure You Know How To Use The BIOS

The main idea here is that you want to STOP the computer from a normal startup into Windows, because you want to tell it to boot/start Ubuntu Linux instead.

So first you need to learn how to STOP the computer's normal startup(aka boot process).

This is done by having it stop at the BIOS screen.

Learn To Recognize What BIOS Looks Like

There are so many BIOS out there, but one thing in common is that when you successfully have stopped the computer at the BIOS screen, it's very different from what you normally would see when you turn on the computer.

Here are some examples:



Oracle Help Center
Configuring BIOS Settings



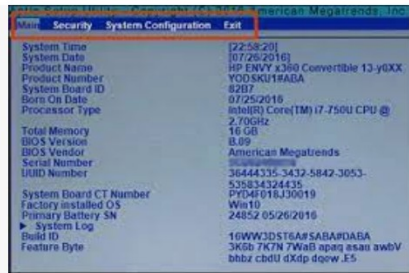
Computer Hope
the BIOS or CMOS Setup



Free Software Foundation
access your computers set up screen ...



Oracle Help Center
BIOS Screens



HP Support
HP Consumer Notebook PCs - BIOS Setup ...



PCMag
BIOS Basics: How to Configure Your PC'...

How To: A Guide to BIOS Settings | PC Gamer

HP Desktop PCs - BIOS Setup Utility ...



YouTube
PC BIOS Settings - YouTube



Silent PC
Bios Problems | Common Bios Error a...



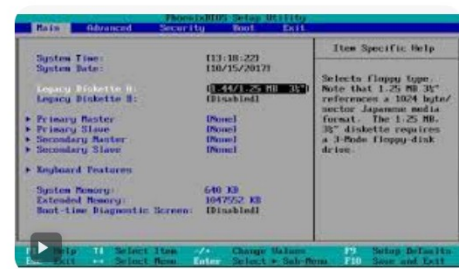
PCMag
BIOS Basics: How to Configure Your P...



AnandTech



MSI Global - The Leading Brand in High-end Ga



YouTube

Keep Reading...(don't do just yet).

WARNING: Do NOT “SAVE” At Any Time

If you ARE successful in stopping the computer at the BIOS screen, the next practice step for you is to be able to exit BIOS and allow the computer to start/boot normally, **WITHOUT saving any changes in BIOS.**

I think worst case, you can hit “CTRL-ALT-DEL” keys and have it re-start, but for what we need to do, try not to have to do that.

What you are searching for in the BIOS screen is some message, or link, or tab, that says something like “Exit without Saving”, or “Discard and Exit”.

On some BIOS screens, you MAY have to click the tab or link/button that says “Save & Exit”, and in that next screen you may find the option to “Exit Without Saving”.

There is a key on the keyboard that will have a special function during startup. And that function is to stop the booting process and land you in the BIOS screen(s).

Here is just a few computers and which key(s) will do that.

BIOS Keys by Manufacturer

Here's a list of common BIOS keys by brand. Depending on the age of your model, the key may be different.

- **ASRock:** F2 or DEL
- **ASUS:** F2 for all PCs, F2 or DEL for Motherboards
- **Acer:** F2 or DEL
- **Dell:** F2 or F12
- **ECS:** DEL
- **Gigabyte / Aorus:** F2 or DEL
- **HP:** F10
- **Lenovo (Consumer Laptops):** F2 or Fn + F2
- **Lenovo (Desktops):** F1
- **Lenovo (ThinkPads):** Enter then F1.
- **MSI:** DEL for motherboards and PCs
- **Microsoft Surface Tablets:** Press and hold volume up button.
- **Origin PC:** F2
- **Samsung:** F2
- **Toshiba:** F2
- **Zotac:** DEL

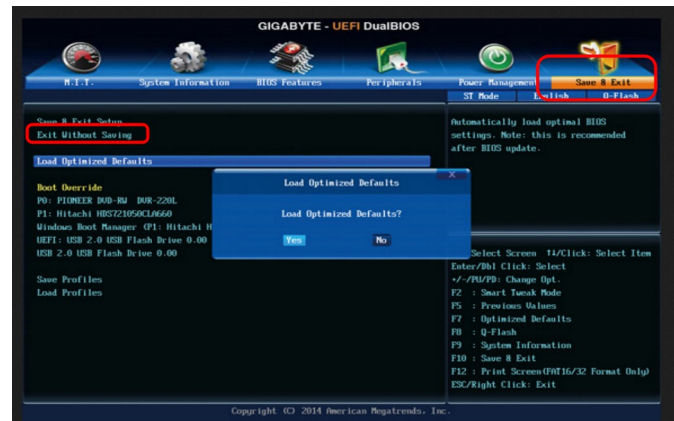
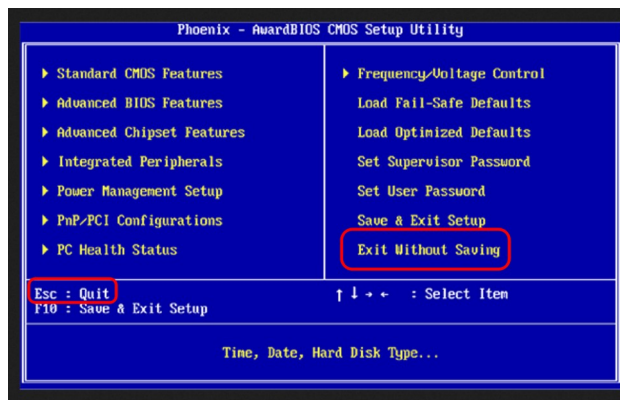
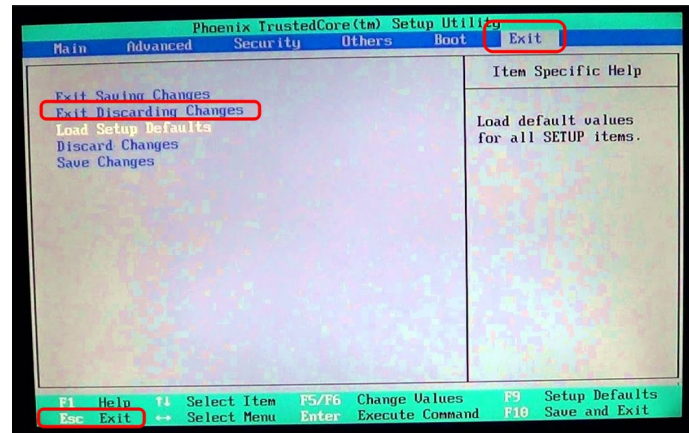
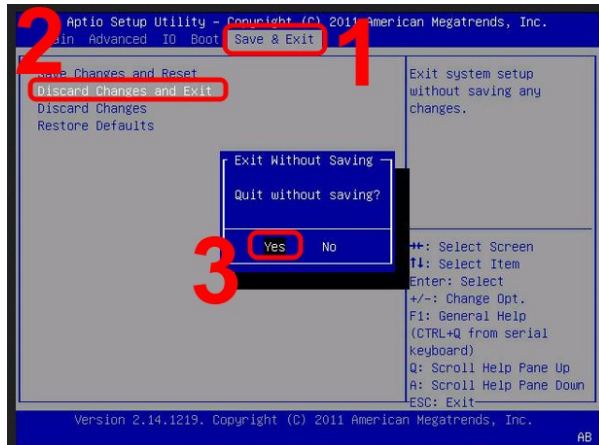
Notice that the DEL, F1, F2, F10, F12 are more or less common. I would start by trying the DEL key.

If a certain key doesn't work, the computer will start as normal and you will see what you always see (typically: Windows login). In that case, you will have to "re-start" the computer like you would normally do, and try again with another key.

The procedure is to repeatedly hit the correct key as soon as the screen goes black (or right after you turned the computer on)... until you see the BIOS screen.

Many (older?) BIOS will NOT be mouse-driven, only keys. Try arrow keys to move around.

Here are some examples of exiting BIOS withOUT saving.



OK, DO IT

- Make sure there is NO USB stick inserted in computer.
- It's best to make sure your computer is OFF.
- Find out which is the key that you need to keep pressing while your computer is powering on. This depends on the computer manufacturer.

Turn on the computer, and quickly begin repeatedly pressing that key until the BIOS screen is displayed

Finally, exit BIOS withOUT saving, as already described. Let computer start up as normal.