Article ID: 920730 - Last Review: November 26, 2007 - Revision: 3.2

How to disable and re-enable hibernation on a computer that is running Windows

INTRODUCTION

This article describes how to disable and re-enable hibernation on a computer that is running Windows.

Warning You may lose data if you make hibernation unavailable when the hybrid sleep setting on the computer is turned on, and a power loss occurs. When you make hibernation unavailable, hybrid sleep does not work.

MORE INFORMATION

The Hiberfil.sys hidden system file is located in the root folder of the drive where the operating system is installed. The Windows Kernel Power Manager reserves this file when you install Microsoft Windows. The size of this file is approximately equal to the amount of random access memory (RAM) that is installed on the computer.

The computer uses the Hiberfil.sys file to store a copy of the system memory on the hard disk when the hybrid sleep setting is turned on. If this file is not present, the computer cannot hibernate.

Hibernation is made unavailable when you set the value of the **Hibernate after** setting to **Never** by using the Power Options item in Control Panel. To make hibernation unavailable, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start**, and then type **cmd** in the **Start Search** box.
2. In the search results list, right-click **Command Prompt**, and then click **Run as Administrator**.
3. When you are prompted by User Account Control, click **Continue**.
4. At the command prompt, type **powercfg.exe /hibernate off**, and then press ENTER.
5. Type **exit**, and then press ENTER.

To make hibernation available, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start**, and then type **cmd** in the **Start Search** box.
2. In the search results list, right-click **Command Prompt**, and then click **Run as Administrator**.
3. When you are prompted by User Account Control, click **Continue**.
4. At the command prompt, type **powercfg.exe /hibernate on**, and then press ENTER.
5. Type **exit**, and then press ENTER to close the Command Prompt window.

APPLIES TO

- Windows Vista Business
- Windows Vista Enterprise
- Windows Vista Home Basic
- Windows Vista Home Premium
- Windows Vista Starter
- Windows Vista Ultimate
- Windows Server 2008 Datacenter without Hyper-V
- Windows Server 2008 Enterprise without Hyper-V
- Windows Server 2008 for Itanium-Based Systems
- Windows Server 2008 Standard without Hyper-V
- Windows Server 2008 Datacenter
- Windows Server 2008 Enterprise
- Windows Server 2008 Standard
- Windows Web Server 2008
- Windows Server 2008 R2 Datacenter
- Windows Server 2008 R2 Enterprise
- Windows Server 2008 R2 Standard
- Windows 7 Enterprise

- Windows 7 Enterprise N
- Windows 7 Professional
- Windows 7 Professional N
- Windows 7 Ultimate
- Windows 7 Ultimate N

Keywords: kbhowto KB920730

Get Help Now

Contact a support professional by E-mail, Online, or Phone

Microsoft Support