



Dual Boot Windows 7 and OS X Snow Leopard Using Chameleon

Posted by tonymacx86 on Thursday, November 26, 2009

Labels: [chameleon](#), [Core i5](#), [Core i7](#), [Dual Boot](#), [guide](#), [Mac](#), [OS X](#), [Snow Leopard](#), [Windows 7](#)

Using Chameleon as your bootloader, you can boot an infinite amount of operating systems on your PC. It's simple to use a separate hard drive for each operating system.

1. Install multiple operating systems on separate hard drives.
2. Go to **CMOS Setup Utility** and choose **Advanced BIOS Features**.
3. Select **Hard Disk Boot Priority**.
4. Move your Chameleon OS X hard drive to top of list.
5. Boot into Chameleon and choose your Operating System.

The following guide will show you how to put OS X Snow Leopard and Windows 7 *on the same hard drive*. You can then use Chameleon to select either Snow Leopard or Windows 7 at boot time. It's a bit trickier, as the Windows installer will set itself as the active partition automatically. ~~You have to manually set the OS X partition active at the end of the process.~~ **UPDATE: The latest MultiBeast will take care of choosing boot0hfs instead of boot0 to automatically boot from hfs partition, even if it's inactive.**

STEP 1: PREPARING THE DRIVE

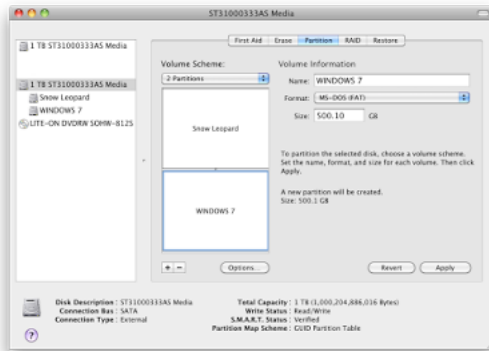
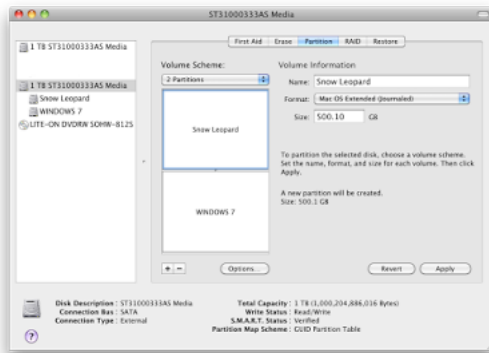
First thing to do is format and partition the hard drive. When you choose 2 partitions with a GUID Partition Table, OS X will format the drive with 3 partitions. Partition 1 is EFI, Partition 2 will be Snow Leopard and Partition 3 will be Windows 7. The EFI partition is a very small (200mb) hidden partition that holds the OS X bootloader and BIOS information on a real Mac. In a separate guide, I'll show you how to [install Chameleon to the EFI partition](#) to leave an OS X install untouched. For now, just know it's installed by default and labeled Partition 1.

1. Boot into your existing OS X installation.
2. Open Applications/Utilities/Disk Utility
3. Select your hard drive in the left column.
4. Click the **Partition** tab
5. Under **Volume Scheme**: separate your hard drive into **2 Partitions**. You can make them any size you want.
6. Click **Options...** choose **GUID Partition Table**, then click **OK**.
7. Click **Untitled 1**. Under **Name**: type **Snow Leopard**. Under **Format**: choose **Mac OS Extended (Journaled)**.
8. Click **Untitled 2**. Under Name: type **Windows 7**. Under **Format**: choose **MSDOS (FAT)**.
9. Click **Apply** and close Disk Utility.
10. Insert Windows 7 DVD in tray.
11. Unplug all hard drives except this one and reboot.



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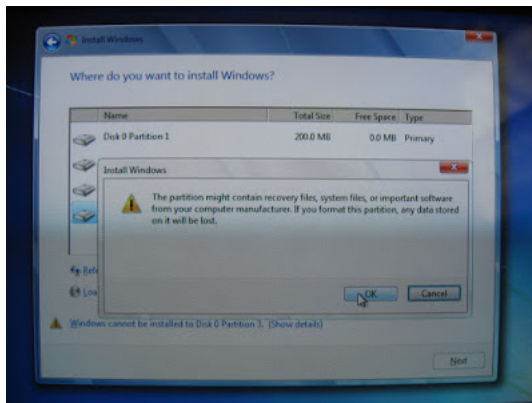
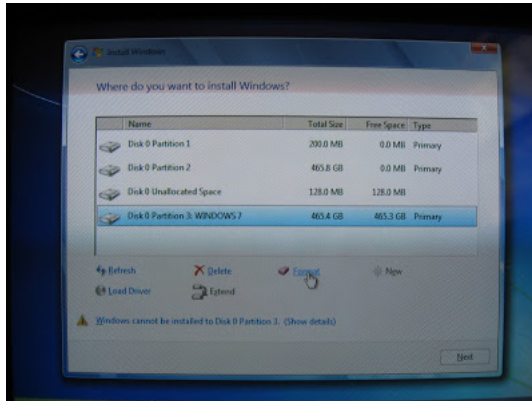
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STEP 2: INSTALL WINDOWS 7

Now you will install Windows 7 to Partition 3. You'll have to reformat it to NTFS in the Windows 7 installer before Windows will let you install. We labeled it Windows 7 in the previous step.

1. Wait for Windows to begin installation process.
2. Accept license agreement.
3. At **Which type of installation do you want**, choose **Custom (Advanced)**
4. At **Where do you want to install Windows**, choose **Partition 3: Windows 7**.
5. Click **Drive options (advanced)**.
6. Click **format**.
7. Click **OK**.
8. Click **Next**.

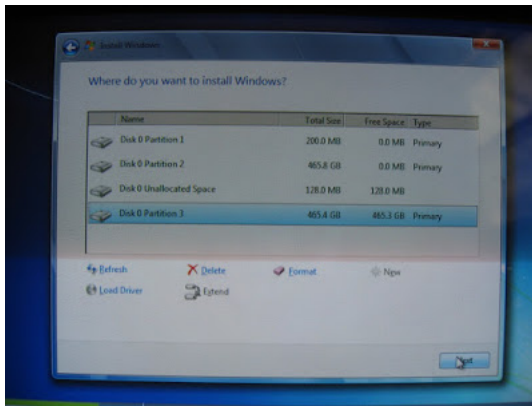


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At this point, Windows 7 will install to Partition 3. The installer will reboot the computer a few times- just leave it until you complete the installation process and see the Windows desktop.

STEP 3: INSTALL SNOW LEOPARD

The next step is to install Snow Leopard to Partition 2.



[iBoot + MultiBeast](#) - Install OS X on any Intel-based PC

STEP 4: SET THE OS X PARTITION AS ACTIVE (NOT NECESSARY) UPDATE: The latest MultiBeast will take care of choosing boot0hfs instead of boot0 to automatically boot from hfs partition, even if it's inactive.

You now have to set the Snow Leopard partition so that your computer boots from it first. Therefore, Chameleon loads and you can select either Snow Leopard or Windows 7. You will have to issue a few commands to Terminal in order to accomplish this task.

1. Open Applications/Utilities/Terminal.
2. Type **diskutil list**
3. Write down the **IDENTIFIER** of your **Apple_HFS Snow Leopard** drive. For this example: **disk0s2**.
4. Type **sudo -s**
5. Enter your password.
6. Type **fdisk -u /dev/rdisk0**
7. Type **y**
8. Type **fdisk -e /dev/rdisk0**
9. Type **p**
10. Type **f 2**
11. Type **w**
12. Type **y**
13. Close Terminal and reboot.

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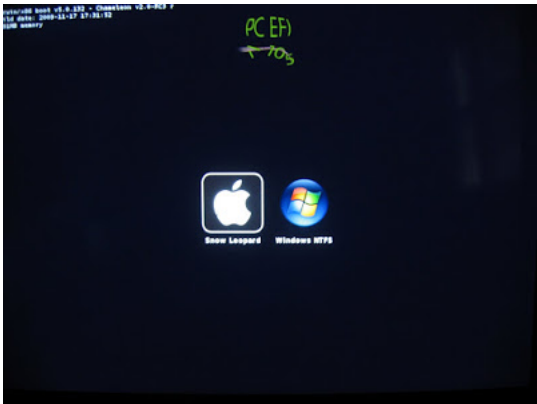
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Unplug all drives except the dual boot drive and restart. You should now be able to boot directly into Chameleon, stop the boot countdown and select either Snow Leopard or Windows NTFS as shown in the picture below.



Thanks for reading and I hope it worked for you! Special thanks goes out to the entire OSx86 Hackintosh community! This guide was cobbled together from various sources- I did not invent this method, and do not wish to take any credit beyond putting it into plain English. ;) As always, if you have any issues, post a comment and I'll try my best to help you out any way I can.

-tonymacx86



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