

Backup, extract serial and remove/replace Windows

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Maybe you have bought a "'puter", maybe even a mobile one, and most certainly they have force-sold you a operation system that fits the dull-wittedness of the word. But then somehow reason creeps back in and starts anoying you... and then you just cannot can't switch to linux.

So here you go:

1. Spare you the hassle of talking to those "'puter"-guys at the local computer-discounter-monster-store in the case of warranty issues and backup the disk image of your freshly bought and so called ~~self-enlavement~~ operation system:
 - Plug a bootable USB stick and boot your favorite Linux.
 - Plug/mount/use the current USB stick to dd your drive:

```
sudo dd if=[DISK_PATH] of=[BACKUP_DRIVE_PATH] bs=4M
```
2. Get your Windows serial out^[1] - remember what they say: "one mans trash..."
3. *Hopefully never*: Restore the diskimage if you have a warranty case. Just repeat step one and swap if= and of= values.

And remember: always have a second device that runs [SomaFM's Defcon Radio](#). 📻

[1]:

```
sudo cat /sys/firmware/acpi/tables/MSDM
```