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"An Operating System Wasn't Found" Windows 10 – How to Fix It?

"An Operating System Wasn't Found" Windows 10 – How to Fix It?

An operating system wasn't found Windows 10? How to fix it when this error occurs after a Windows upgrade, a BIOS update, or after cloning your hard drive to another disk? In the following content, you can find out a proper solution to this error.



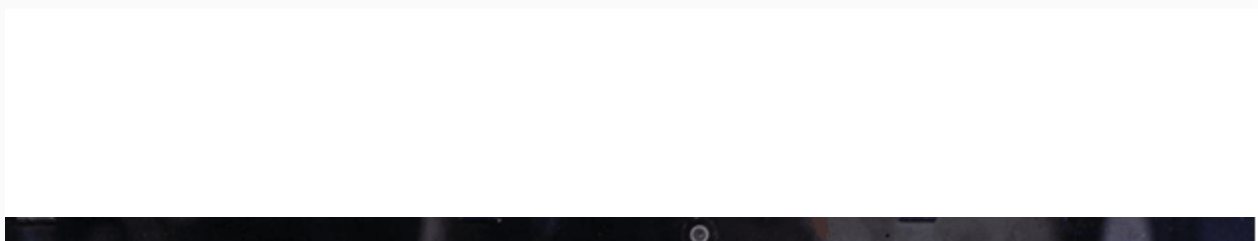
By [Michael](#) / Last Updated March 15, 2022




Yesterday, I upgraded my PC from Windows 8 to Windows 10. The upgrade was quite successful however, after that, I couldn't boot my PC. It showed "An operating system wasn't found. Try disconnecting any drives that don't contain an operating system. Press Ctrl+Alt+Del to restart".

The Error: "An operating system wasn't found" in Windows 10

The following error "An operating system wasn't found. Try disconnecting any drives that don't contain an operating system. Press Ctrl+Alt+Del to restart" could appear on Windows 10 during OS start up. This error can be displayed after upgrading Windows, for example, from Windows 8 to Windows 10, updating BIOS or cloning a hard drive to another. No matter what triggers this error, here you'll find some useful methods to fix the "OS not found Windows 10" issue.





An operating system wasn't found. Try disconnecting any drives that don't contain an operating system.
Press Ctrl+Alt+Del to restart

How to Fix “An operating system wasn't found” in Windows 10?

In order to fix the issue “An OS wasn't found Windows 10”, you must have a installation USB media. If you don't own one, you can use MediaCreationTool to [create the installation media](#).

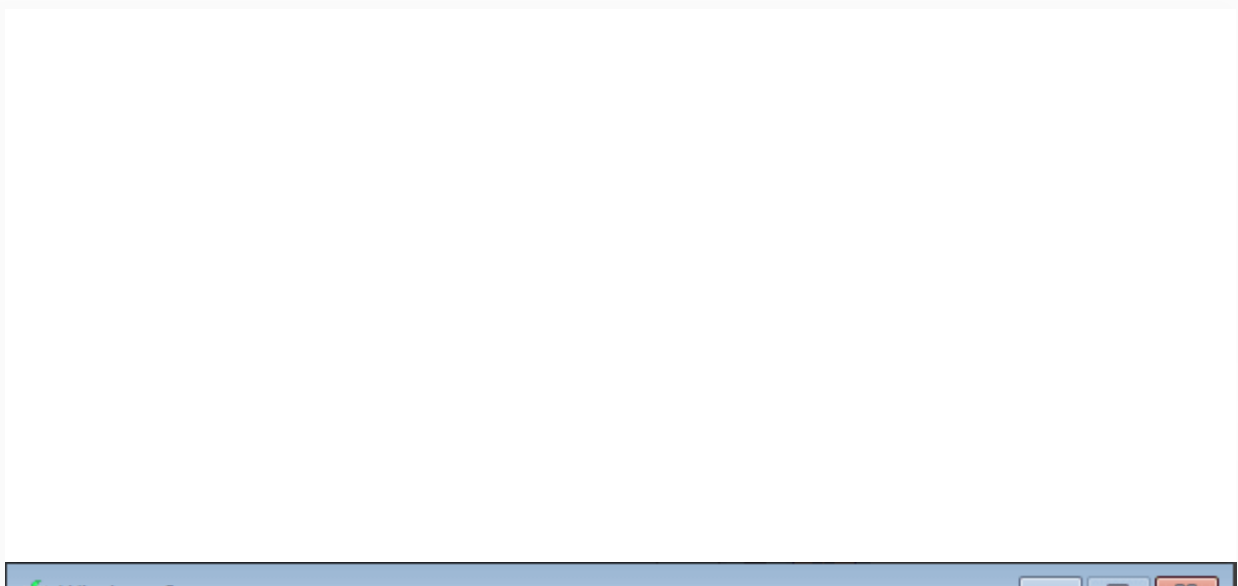
Before proceeding to the following fixes, you can first try:

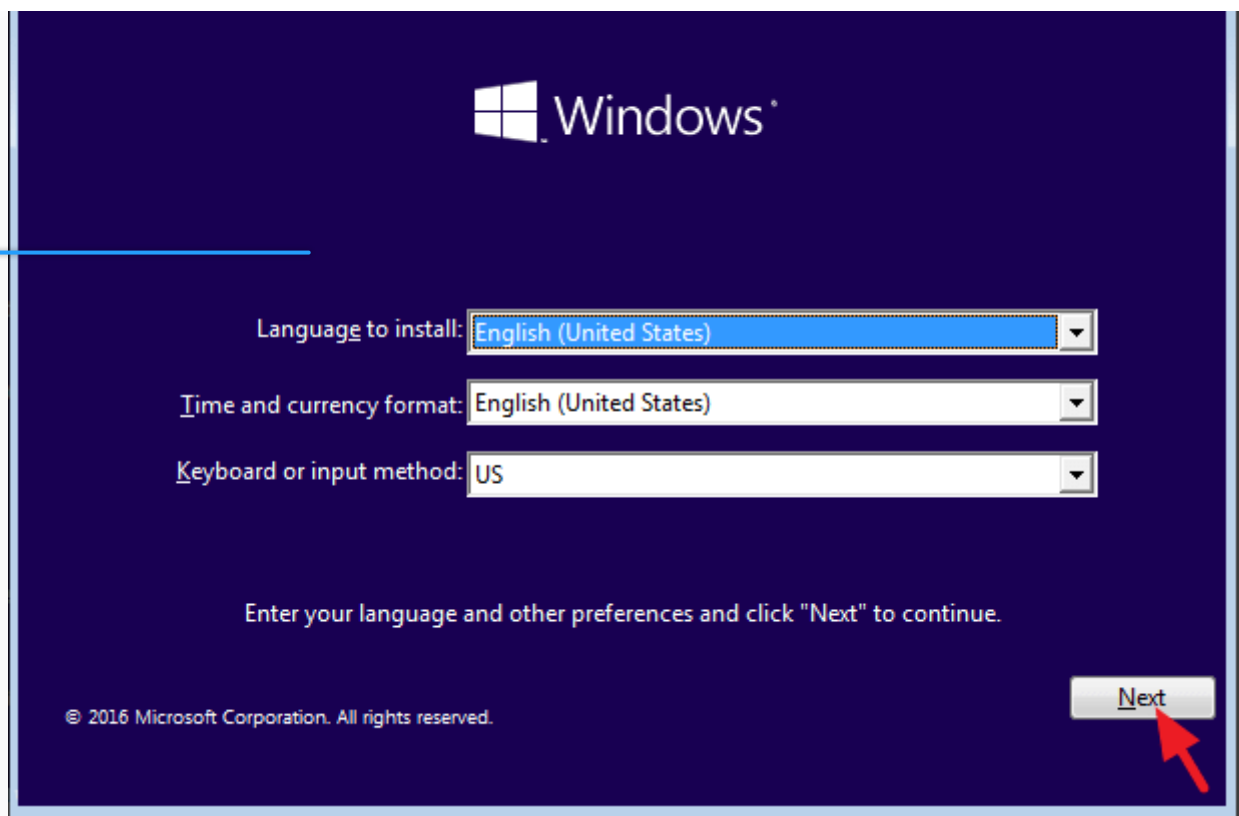
1. Setting your internal hard disk with the installed OS as the first boot devices in the BIOS Set up settings.
2. Disconnecting any other devices that don't contain your OS, for example, your mouse, keyboards, etc.

Method 1. Perform a Windows Startup Repair

Windows Start up Repair can fix many issues related to Windows start up failure. So, you might as well first try this method.

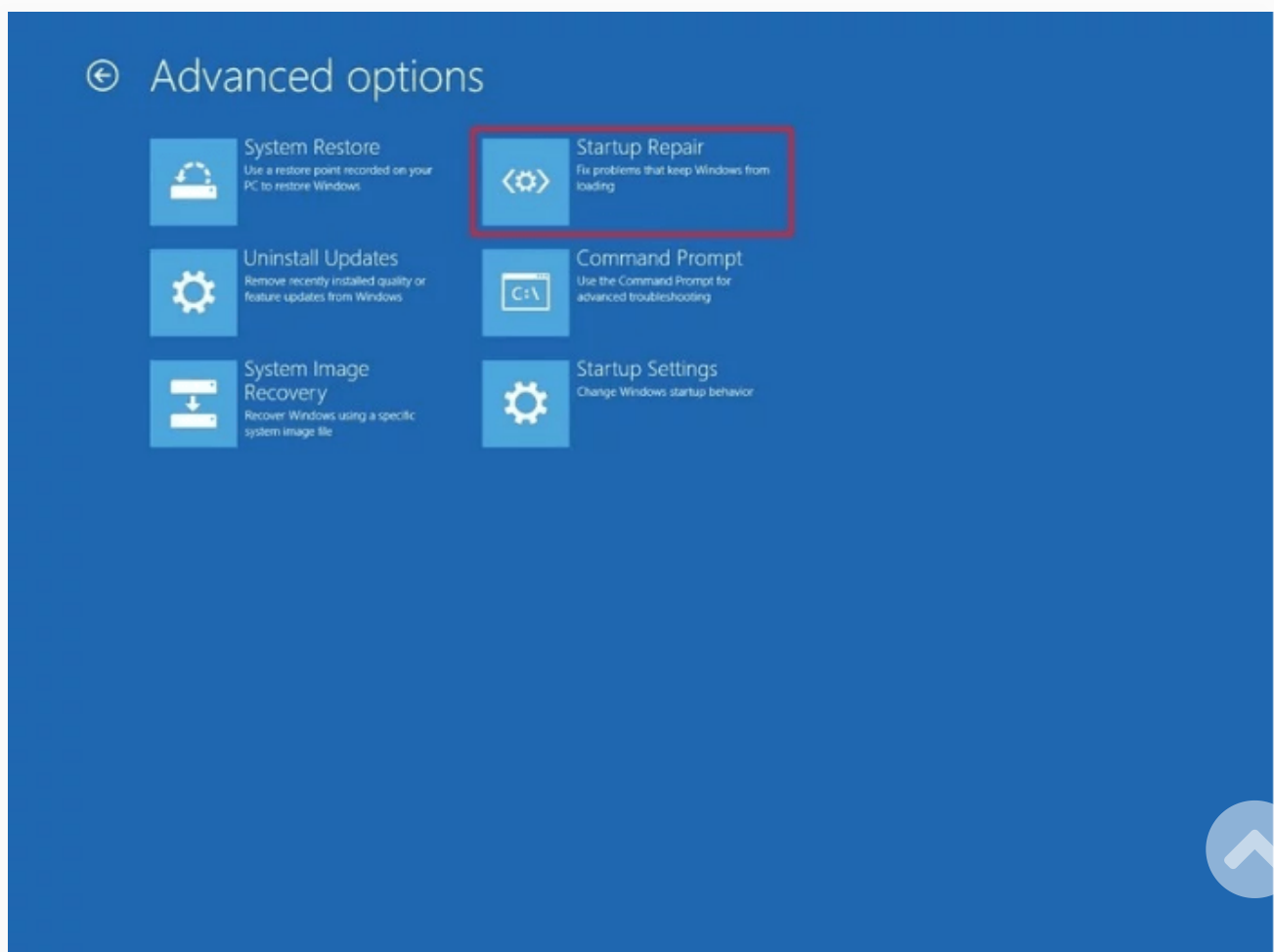
1. Connect the Windows USB installation media to the PC and boot from it.
2. In the first set up window, select a language, time and currency format, and keyboard or input method. After it's done, click on “Next” to continue.





3. In the second window, click on "Repair your computer".

4. Then, click on "Troubleshoot" > "Advanced options" > "Startup Repair".

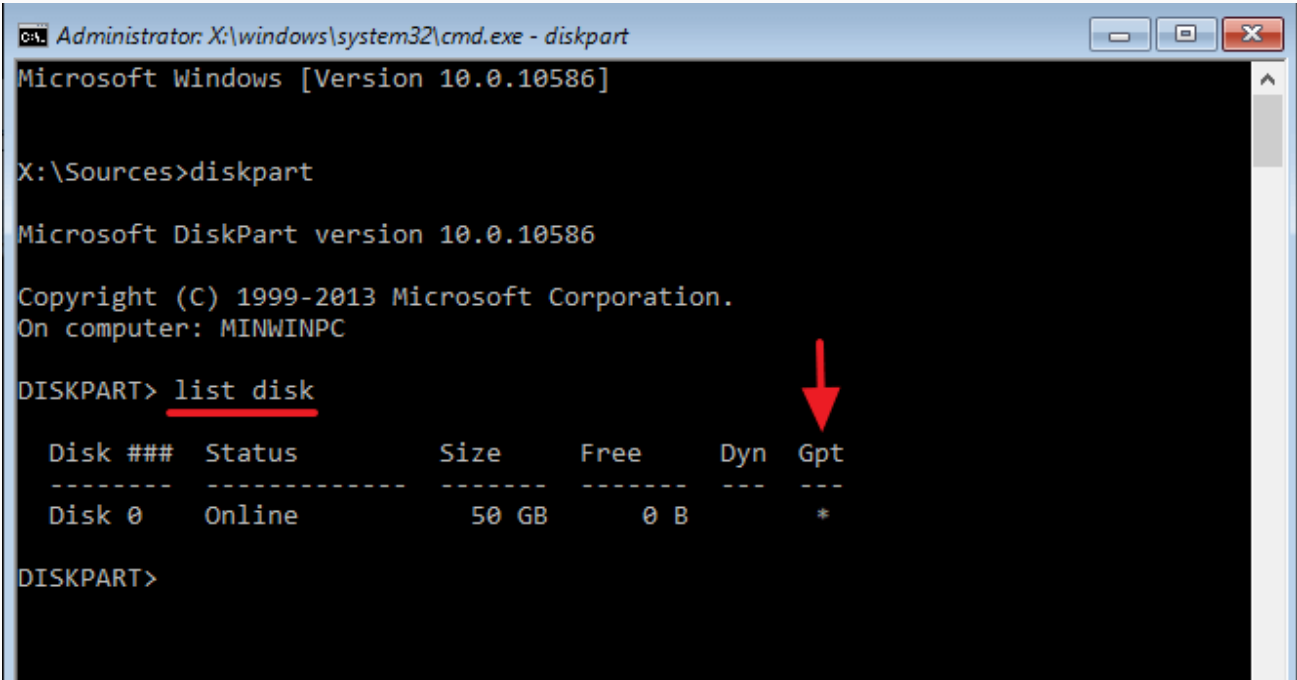


Wait a few seconds before it's completed. When the Startup Repair is completed, try booting into Windows. AOMEI uses cookies to ensure you get the best experience on our website. [Learn more](#) [Got it](#)

Method 2. Configure and repair the boot files

If the above method doesn't help fix "an operating system wasn't found" in Windows 10, you can consider configuring and repairing the boot files.

1. Connect the Windows USB installation media to your PC and boot from it.
2. In the first set up window, select the language to install, time and currency format, and keyboard or input method, then hit "Next" like what you've done in Method 1.
3. In the second window, press "SHIFT + F10" to bring up Command Prompt.
4. In the window of Command Prompt, type "diskpart" and hit "ENTER" to bring up the interface of DiskPart.
5. Then, input "list disk" to see whether your disk is in GPT or MBR and hit "ENTER".
6. Locate the GPT column and check if it contains an asterisk "**".
 - If you see an asterisk, that means your disk is in GPT.
 - If you don't see an asterisk, it means your disk is in MBR.



```
Administrator: X:\windows\system32\cmd.exe - diskpart
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.10586]

X:\Sources>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.10586

Copyright (C) 1999-2013 Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: MINWINPC

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status       Size      Free      Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online       50 GB     0 B           *
```

7. Input "exit" and hit "ENTER".

If the partition is in MBR, then, go to part 1 to find the solution; if the partition is in GPT, read part 2 to solve the problem.

Part 1. For MBR system drive

The first thing you need to do is to find on which hard drive the OS is installed.

1. In Command Prompt type "dir c:" and hit "ENTER" If the Windows folder is displayed then

which partition has the Windows folder (e.g. dir d:, dir: e, dir: f...). (In this example, the D drive contains the Windows folder).

2. Type "bcdboot D:\Windows /S D:" in Command Prompt, then, you should see this message "Boot files successfully created".

3. After the boot file creation, bring up the window of DiskPart again by typing "diskpart".

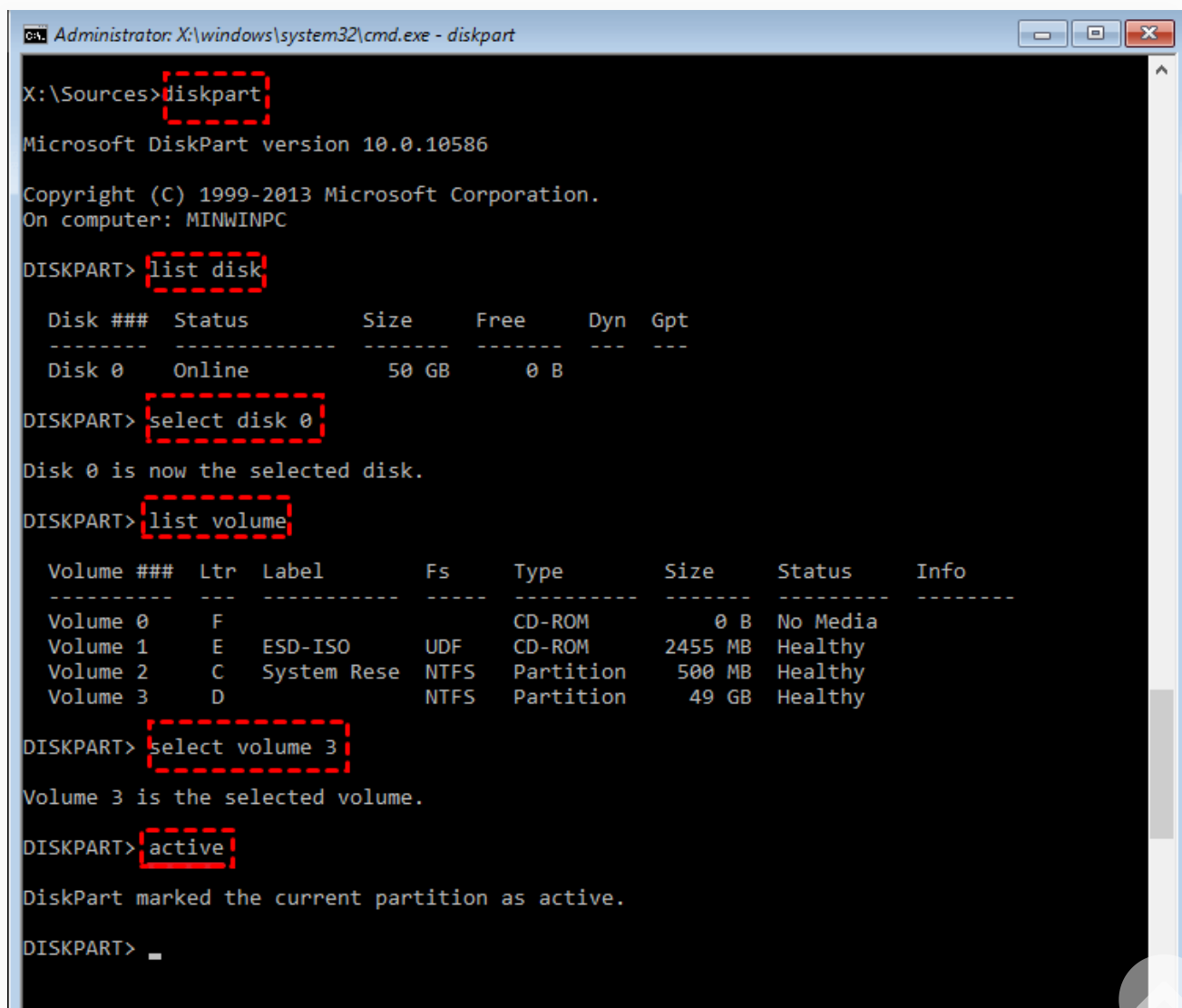
4. In DiskPart, type "list disk".

5. Type "select disk x". "x" represents the number of the disk that contains the OS – e.g. "0".

6. Type "list volume" and hit "ENTER".

7. Type "select volume x". "x" represents the number of the partition containing the Windows folder. In this example, it's "3".

8. Type "active" and hit "ENTER".



```
C:\Sources>diskpart
Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.10586
Copyright (C) 1999-2013 Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: MINWINPC

DISKPART> list disk

Disk ###  Status             Size             Free             Dyn  Gpt
-----  -
Disk 0    Online              50 GB              0 B

DISKPART> select disk 0
Disk 0 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> list volume

Volume ###  Ltr  Label          Fs      Type          Size      Status       Info
-----  -
Volume 0     F    ESD-ISO        UDF     CD-ROM        2455 MB   Healthy
Volume 1     C    System Rese   NTFS    Partition     500 MB   Healthy
Volume 2     D    System Rese   NTFS    Partition     49 GB   Healthy

DISKPART> select volume 3
Volume 3 is the selected volume.

DISKPART> active
DiskPart marked the current partition as active.

DISKPART>
```

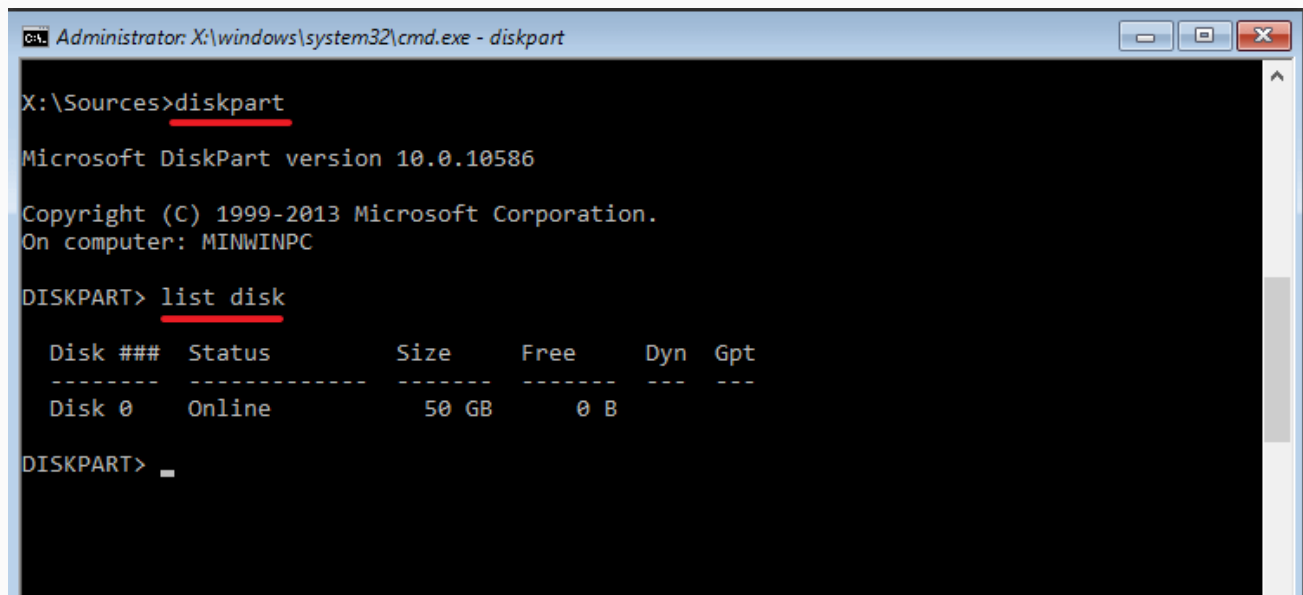
9. Type "exit" and hit "ENTER" to quit DiskPart.

10. Shut all windows down and reboot the PC.

11. REMOVE THE WINDOWS TO BOOTABLE MEDIA AND BOOT INTO WINDOWS 10 AS USUAL.

Part 2. For GPT system drive

1. Find out on which disk Windows lies in the method mentioned at the beginning of Part 1.
2. Type "diskpart" and hit "ENTER" to bring up DiskPart utility.
3. In DiskPart prompt, type "list disk" and hit "ENTER".



```
X:\Sources>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.10586

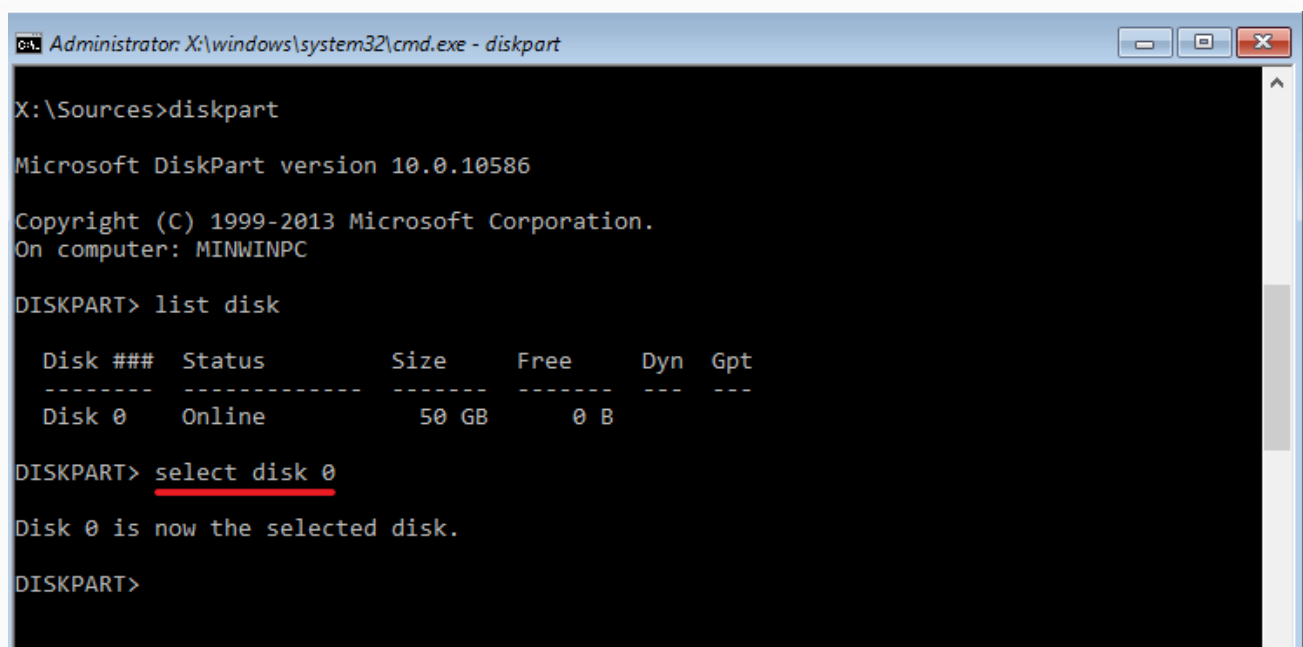
Copyright (C) 1999-2013 Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: MINWINPC

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status              Size               Free              Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online              50 GB               0 B

DISKPART> _
```

4. Now, type "select disk x" and hit "ENTER". "x" means the number of the disk containing the OS – e.g. "0").

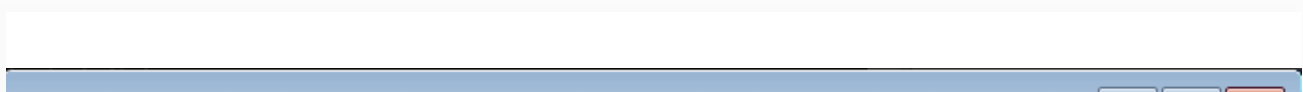


```
DISKPART> select disk 0

Disk 0 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART>
```

5. Type "list partition" and hit "ENTER".
6. Check which partition is labeled as "System". In this example, it's partition 4.



```
-----
Disk 0      Online          50 GB      0 B
-----

DISKPART> select disk 0

Disk 0 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> list partition

Partition ###  Type              Size      Offset
-----
Partition 1    Recovery            300 MB    1024 KB
Partition 2    Reserved            128 MB     401 MB
Partition 3    Primary             119 GB     529 MB
Partition 4    System              261 MB    119 GB

DISKPART>
```

7. Type "select partition x" to select the system partition. "x" represents the number of the partition labeled as "System". e.g. "4".

```
Administrator: X:\windows\system32\cmd.exe - diskpart

DISKPART> select partition 4

Partition 4 is now the selected partition.

DISKPART>
```

8. Assign a drive letter (for example, "s") to the system partition by typing "assign letter=S:" and hit "ENTER".

```
Administrator: X:\windows\system32\cmd.exe - diskpart

DISKPART> select partition 4

Partition 4 is now the selected partition.

DISKPART> assign letter=S:

DiskPart successfully assigned the drive letter or mount point.

DISKPART> _
```

9. Type "exit" and hit "ENTER" to quit the window of DiskPart.

10. Then, type "cd /d S:\EFI\Microsoft\Boot\" and hit "ENTER".

11. Type "ren BCD BCD.bak" and hit "ENTER"

12. Type `cd boot C:\WINDOWS\RECOVERY\3.7\GET` and hit `ENTER`.

13. Shut all windows down and restart your PC.

14. Remove the Windows 10 bootable media and boot into Windows as usual.

Method 3. Rebuild MBR with Third-party freeware

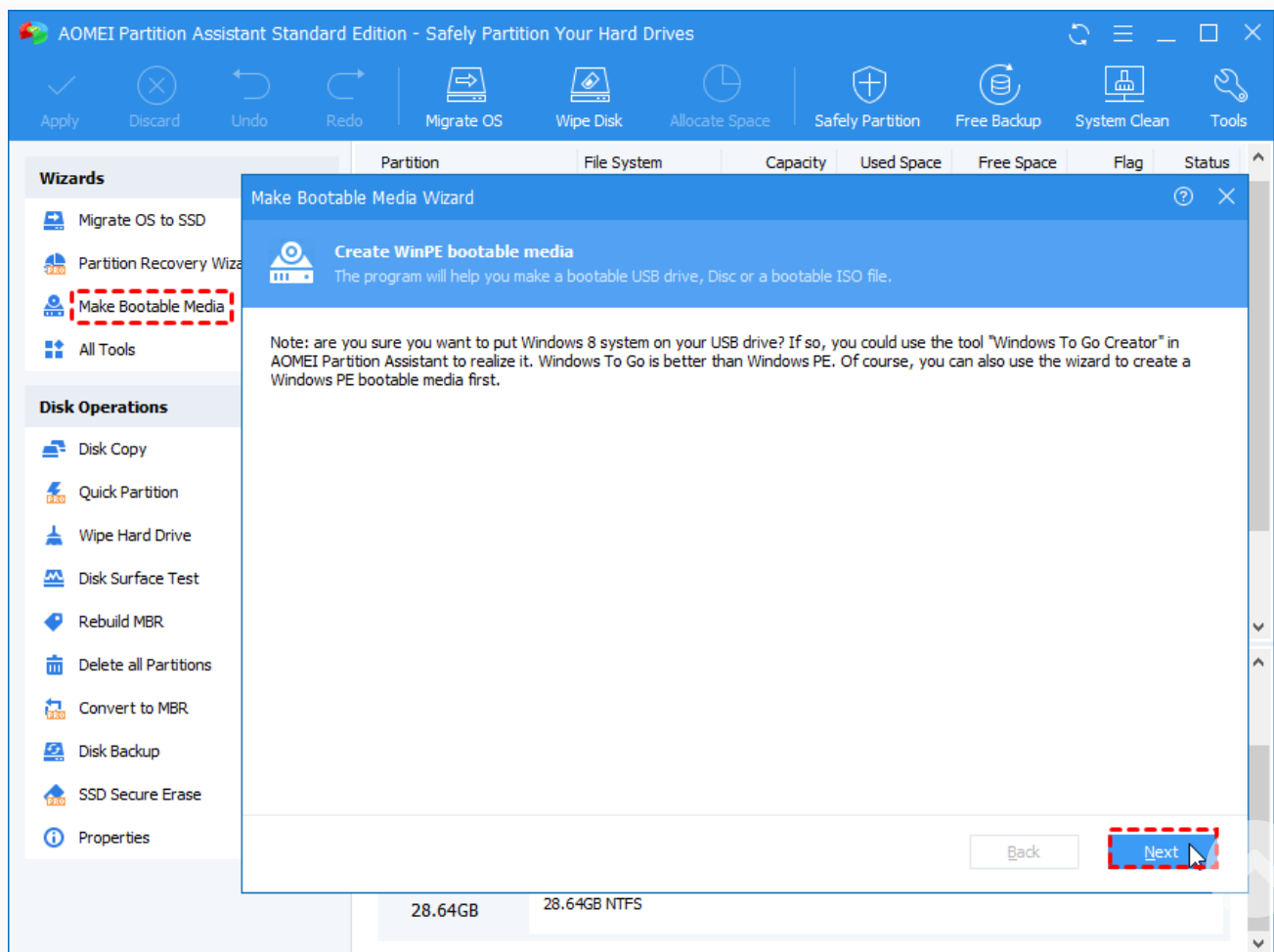
If you think Method 2 is too complex and are still looking for an alternative way to fix “An operating system wasn't found” windows 10 error, maybe it's time to try some third-party software. With AOMEI Partition Assistant Standard, powerful and simple disk management software, you're able to rebuild MBR to fix such Windows boot error once for all. Apart from this useful function, you can also try its other features to fix corrupted SSD, black screen boot error, or make conversion between GPT and MBR.

Before getting started, download this software first and then, make a bootable media using on another normal PC, and boot the PC from this media.

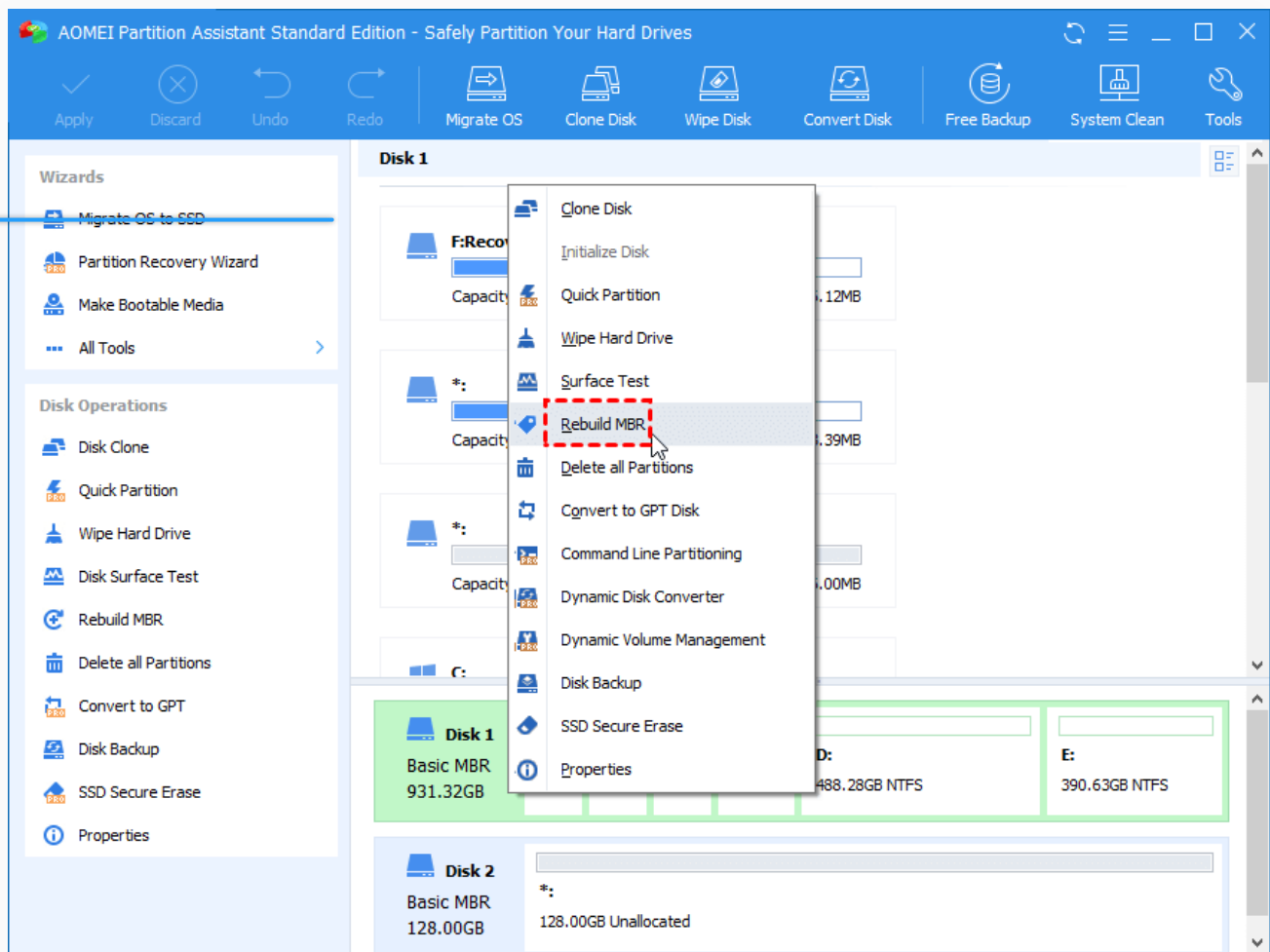
Download Freeware

Win 10/8.1/8/7/XP

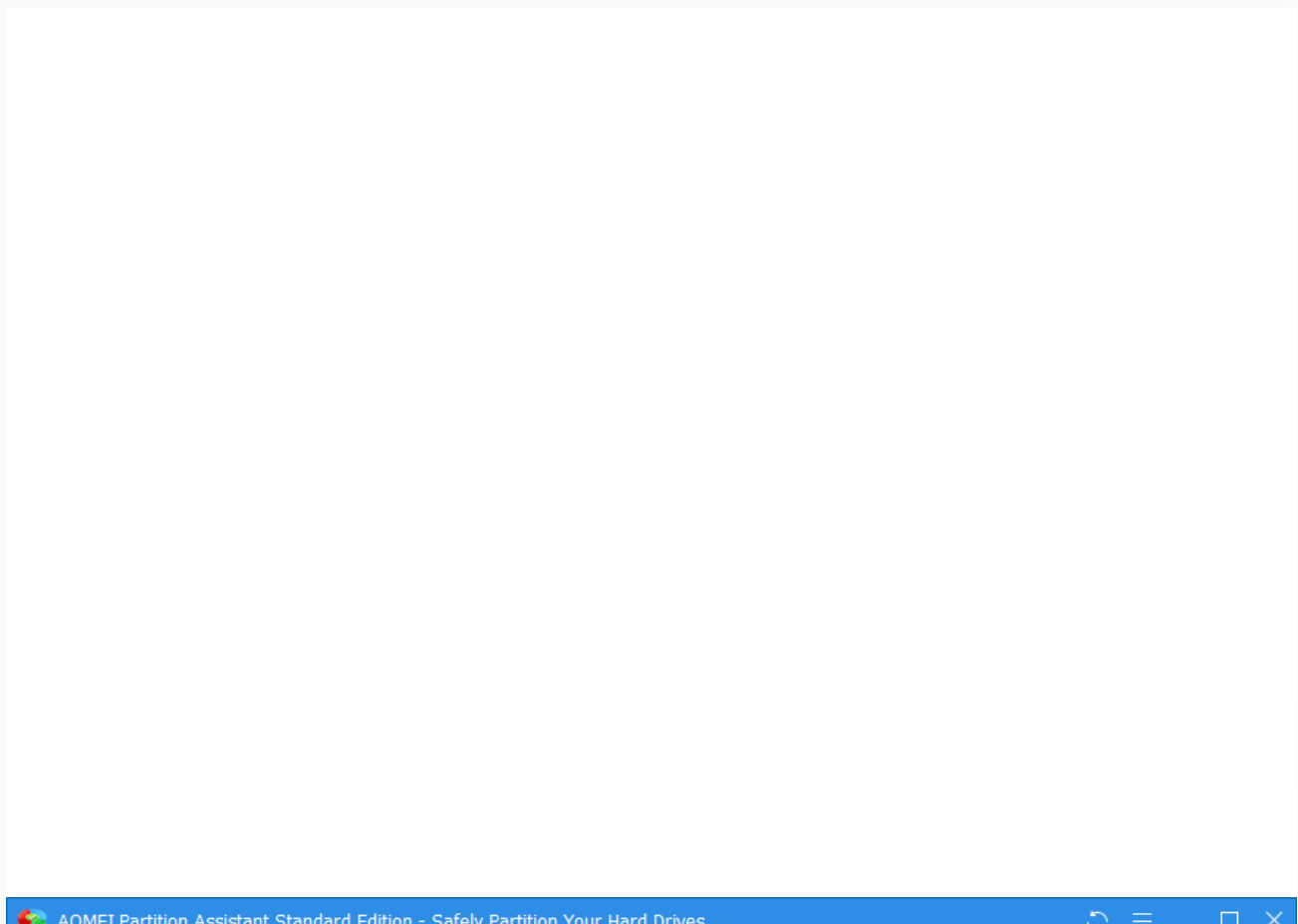
Secure Download

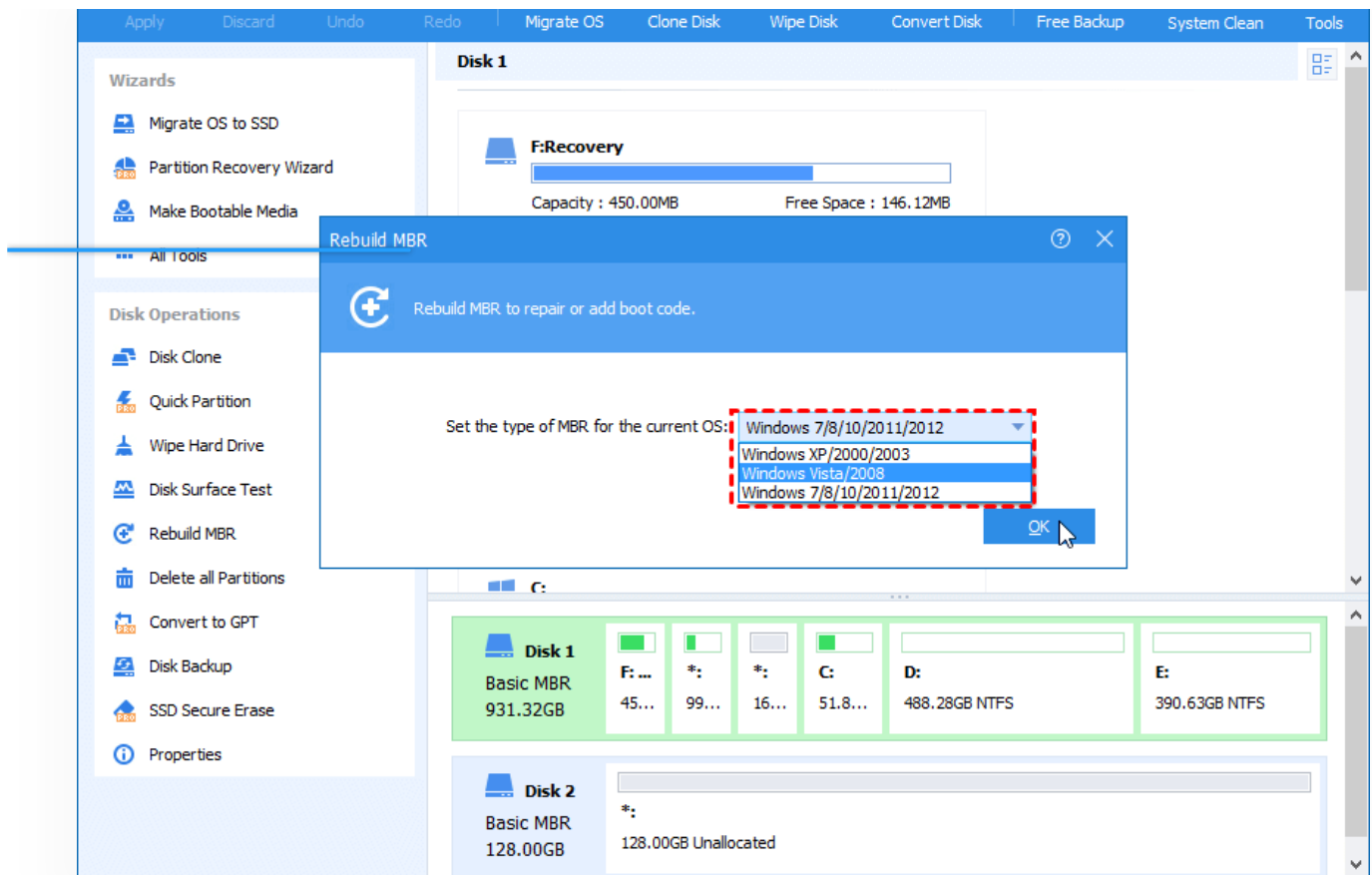


Step 1 After getting to the main interface of AOMEI Partition Assistant Standard appears, select
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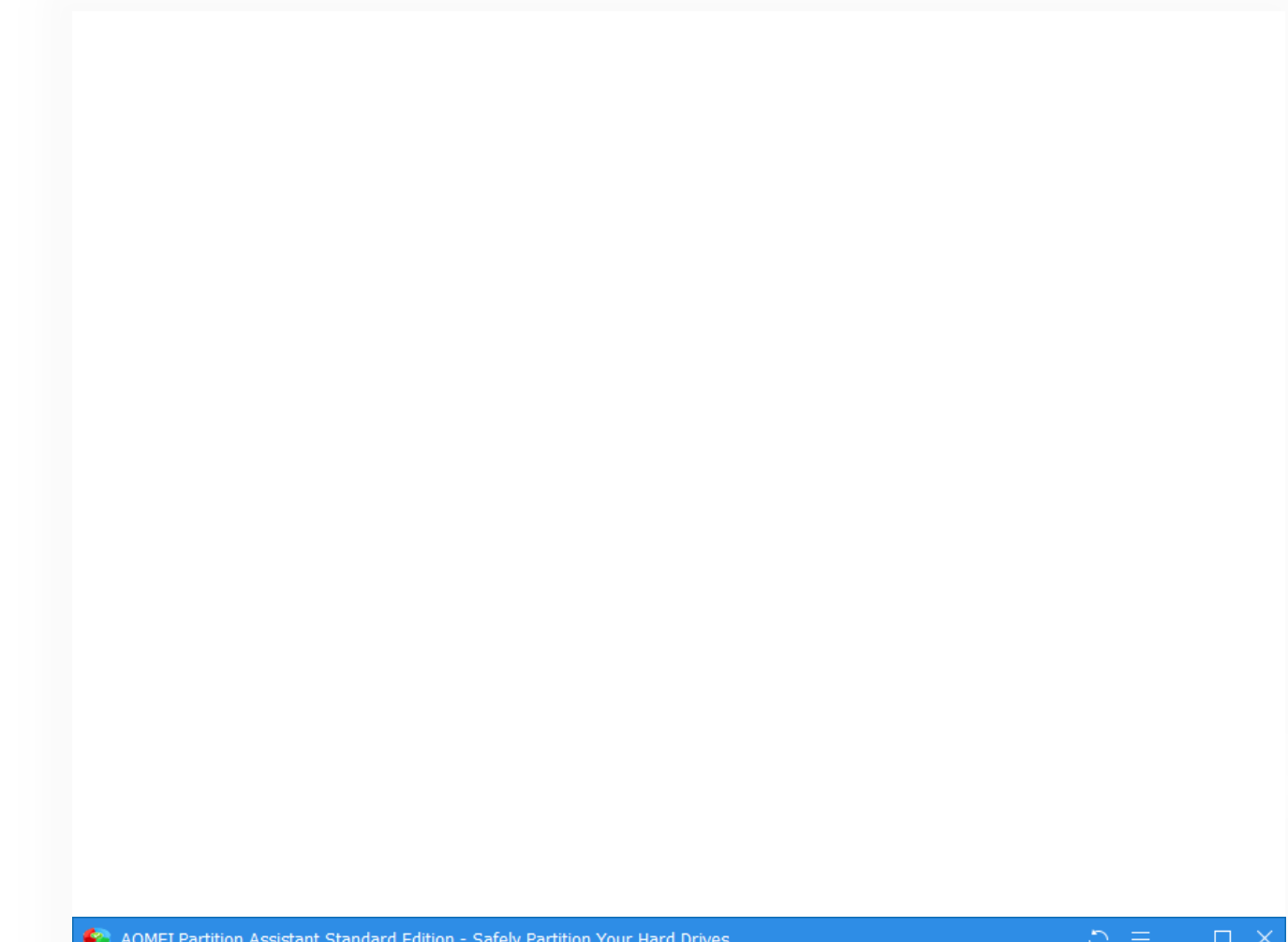


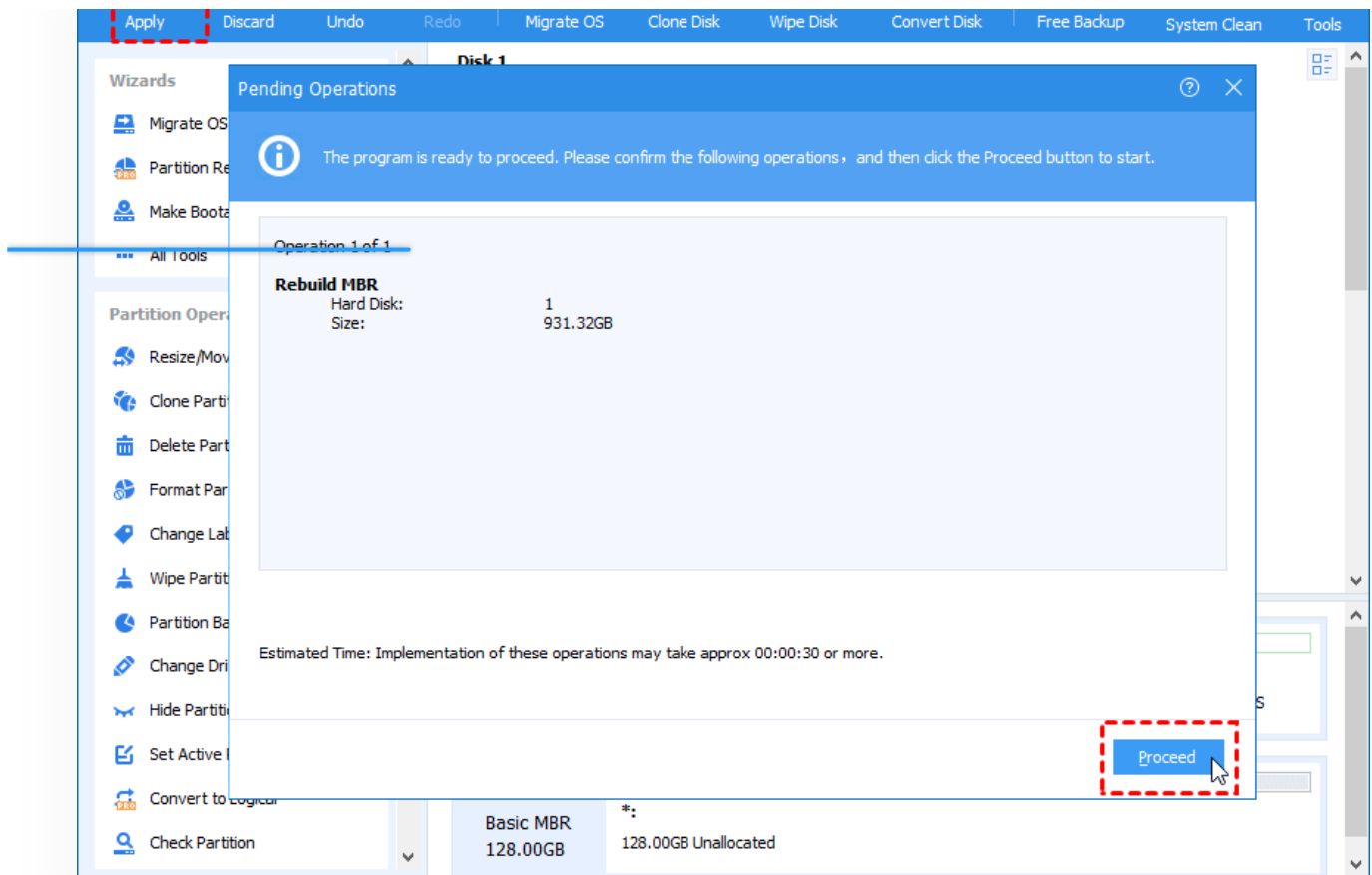
Step 2. Set the type of MBR for the current OS and hit "OK"





Step 3. After returning to the main interface, click on "Apply" on the upper left and hit "Proceed" to start the MBR rebuild.





You're supposed to wait only a few seconds before it's completed.

Conclusion

An operating system wasn't found windows 10 Dell or other brands of PCs? After going through the entire tutorial, I believe you've found the best way to fix it. As for me, I prefer method 3 because it's easier and really helped me out. To use other features of AOMEI Partition Assistant Standard including free space allocation from one partition to another, partition split, and dynamic to basic conversion, you're supposed to upgrade it to the pro version.

Free Partition Manager



- Resize and Move Partition
- System/Disk Clone
- Convert MBR/GPT Disk
- Check & Fix Disk Errors



[Download Now](#)

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- [Cloned Hard Drive or SSD Won't Boot - How to Fix?](#)
- [Tutorial: What to Do to Fix Windows Fails to Start Error](#)

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