

Oh no! Not the old “Blue Screen of Death.” The computer boots to a blue screen with a bunch of gibberish text. Two main causes are a failing hard drive or an incompatible or corrupted device driver. It looks fatal.

If perhaps camera or GPS software was recently installed, then a device driver is suspect. If this is the case, we can use Safe Mode and Windows Explorer to delete the offending file. Strike the F8 key early in the boot up process to get to Safe Mode.

As in the case below, no new devices had been loaded and besides, Safe Mode did not work either. It’s probably a disk drive problem. The old program named chkdsk can often recover the lost data, place it on another part of the disk and set aside the bad spot as unusable.

Main Issue: Machine will not boot, displays blue screen of death.

Booted the machine using special bootable CD.

Ran chkdsk, a disk repair program.

PC still will not boot up on its own, but displays different error message.

Run chkdsk again.

Machine started, but displays notices of disk inconsistency and began running its own chkdsk version for long period and then booted up cleanly.

While having the opportunity, I backed up personal files to a DVD.

Turned machine off and then on and it again complained of disk inconsistency and ran chkdsk again. The hard drive is clearly failing, but it finally booted up again.

The computer contained two disk drives and the second appeared to not be in use. Ran a special program to clone disk 1 onto disk 2. Then moved the wiring from disk 1 to disk 2 leaving disk 1 in the machine, but not wired.

The machine booted cleanly several times and I believe it to be healthy.

\$75, Thank You.

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