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# Windows XP Service Pack 1a Express Installation

Updated: February 3, 2003

This is the recommended method to update one or two personal computers running Windows XP Professional or Windows XP Home Edition. The Express Installation checks your computer and installs only the files that are necessary to bring your computer up to date.

**If you are using a browser other than Internet Explorer 5, Internet Explorer 5.5 or Internet Explorer 6 for this download, please [click here](#).**

The download size for Express Installation is 30 megabytes (MB) or less. The download may be smaller than 30 MB if you have used Windows Update recently to install hotfixes. The full 30 MB download takes approximately 90 minutes with a dial-up connection and a 56k modem, or 3-5 minutes for broadband Internet users. Because downloading SP1a takes a substantial amount of time, you might want to save the file on your computer. This way, if you need to restart the installation or reinstall SP1a, you will not need to download the file again. Because of the potential size of this file, if your computer has more than one hard disk, you should save the file on a disk other than your system disk.

Clicking the Microsoft Update link below will take you to the Microsoft Update Web site to download the Express Installation of SP1a. Microsoft Update will scan your computer and present you with a list of updates available for download. If you do not already have SP1 installed on your computer, it will be listed as one of the updates under Critical Updates and Service Packs.

### Microsoft Update

**Chinese Hong Kong customers:** Please download the [Chinese Hong Kong express package](#) or follow the Windows XP SP1a link above and you will be offered the Chinese Traditional version of Windows XP SP1a.

### Notes

- If you use Fast User Switching, make sure all users are logged out and that you are only logged on to the computer as administrator.
- **Exchange Messenger users:** Be sure to read the [release notes](#) on the Microsoft Windows XP Service Pack 1a Web site before you install the service pack.

### Typical download size and time for Express installation:

Size: 30 MB | 1.25 hours via 56K dial-up | 3 minutes via T1

- The download requires an Internet connection.
- Anti-virus software programs may interfere with the installation. Please disable anti-virus software while installing Windows XP SP1a.

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