



How to convert your Windows Server 2008... to a Workstation!



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Windows Server 2008 to Workstation Ultimate Guide

Windows Server 2008 is the most advanced Windows Server operating system yet, designed to power the next-generation of networks, applications, and Web services. With Windows Server 2008 you can develop, deliver, and manage rich user experiences and applications, provide a highly secure network infrastructure, and increase technological efficiency and value within your organization.

Windows Server 2008 builds on the success and strengths of its Windows Server predecessors while delivering valuable new functionality and powerful improvements to the base operating system. New Web tools, virtualization technologies, security enhancements, and management utilities help save time, reduce costs, and provide a solid foundation for your information technology (IT) infrastructure.

The purpose of creating this guide is to make it short, simple, and to the point! This is the only guide you will find on the Internet that has gone into so much depth. The sections above do not have to be taken in any particular order, but for the full [Workstation](#) experience it's recommended you do it step-by-step!

I won't go into too much detail here, besides who loves reading too much? Not many people I bet, so I will go straight to the point in these sections, allowing a quick and easy configuration of your [Server](#) to convert it to act like a Workstation!

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Let's move on to the sections where we will be installing and tweaking Windows Server 2008!

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[TechConnect]



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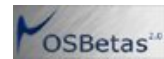
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[NT Compatible]



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Windows Server 2008 Installation

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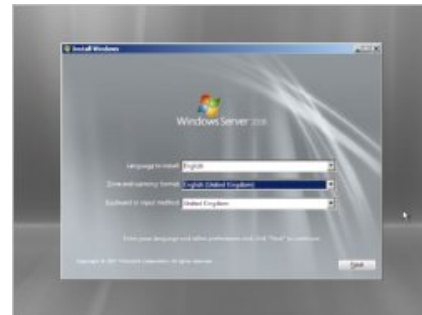
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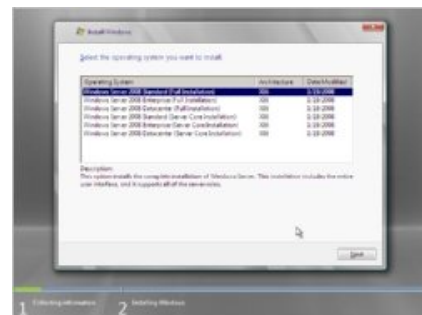
I'm sure you'll know how to install Windows Server 2008, its basically done the same way as Windows Vista. Let's move on!

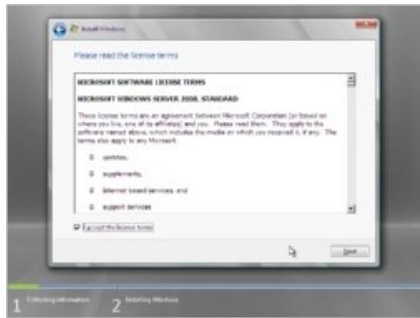
Boot up your Windows Server 2008 from DVD.



On the next screen just click **Install Now** button.

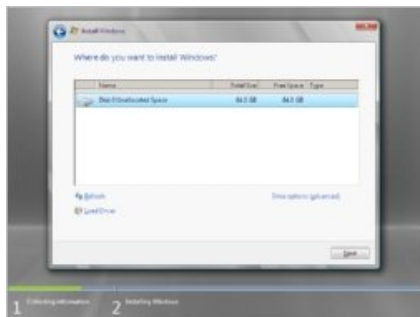
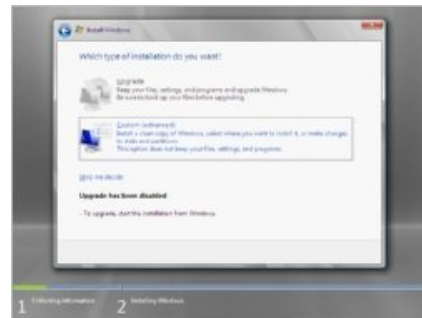
Select your version of Windows Server 2008 (**Full Installation**) and click **Next**.





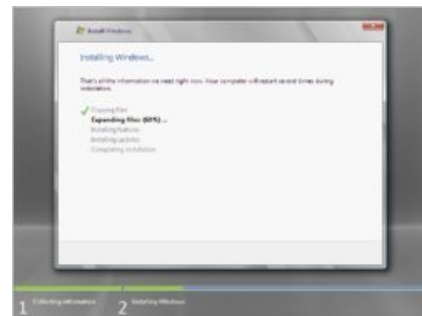
Select **I accept the license terms** and click **Next**.

Choose the option **Custom (advanced)**.



Select the harddisk and partition where you want to install Windows Server 2008 and click **Next**.

Windows Server 2008 now installing.



After installation was finished your computer will restart and you will be prompted to change your password. **Changing your password is very important step**. Now let's move on to the next section.

Page 2 - Post Setup

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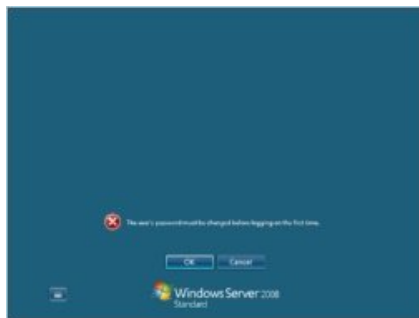
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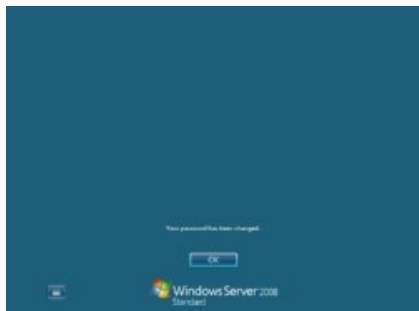
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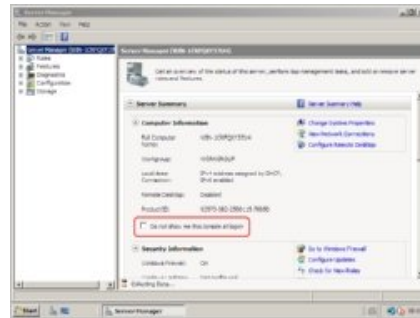
You **MUST** type in a strong password with at least one capital letter and one number, for example **Go4msfn**, otherwise you will get an error message saying that you doesn't comply to the security enforcements of the domain. You can disable this strong password enforcement later.

After succesfully changing the password you will see the message that your password has succesfully been changed.



Click **OK**. Your desktop will now show up.

The first thing you should do is disable the **Server Manager** window, you don't want it nagging you everytime you boot up Windows. Do you?



Now let's move on to the next section, where you will create a new user account.

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Creating a New User Account & Autologon

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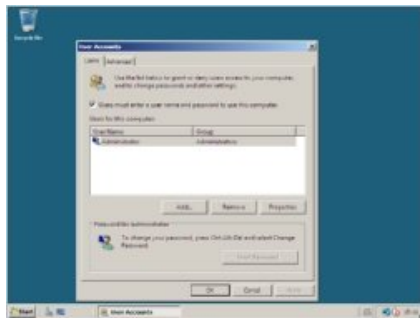
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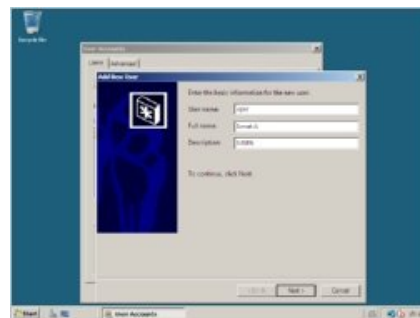
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The Welcome Screen is non-existent in Windows Server 2008, so you weren't prompted to make a new user name upon first boot-up. But worry not, its fairly simple to do, as everything in this guide is!



Go to **Start -> Run ->** and type in **control userpasswords2** and press enter. The User Accounts window will appear.

Click on **Add** and then fill in the necessary fields with your User name, Full name, and Description.

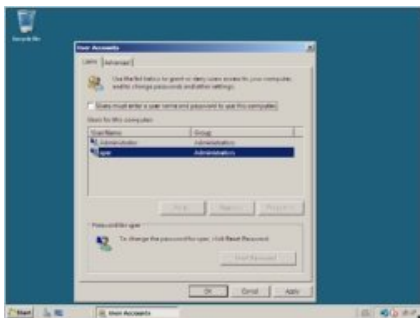
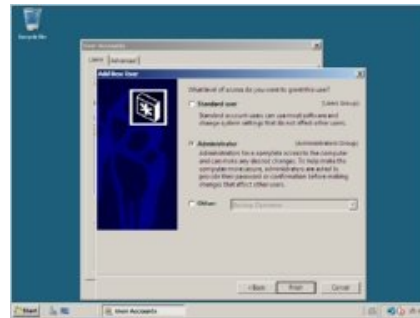


Click on **Next** and fill in both password fields and then click on **Next**.



On the next wizard box choose **Other** and select **Administrators**, lastly click on **Finish!**

If you wish for a more advanced configuration, you can always use **lusrmgr.msc** by running it from the **Run** box again.

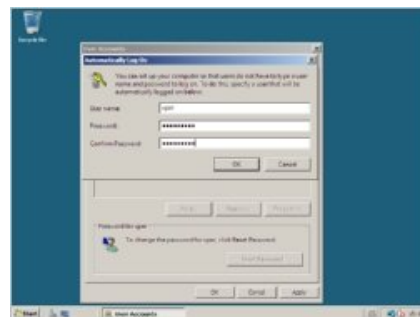


Now that we've set up a personal user account, we want it to autologon. If you don't wish for this feature please skip this step.

Make sure your name is **highlighted** in the User Accounts window, as shown in the screenshot to the right, and then **uncheck** the box **Users must enter a user name and password to use this computer** and then click on **Apply**.

If you did it right, you will get another window asking for the password to use for autologon on *your account name*. Fill in both password fields, and you're ready to go!

Now log off and log in with your new account!



If you want to disable the CTRL-ALT-DEL prompt, please go to this page

Let's move on to the next section - Computer Owner Information Configuration!

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Computer Owner Information

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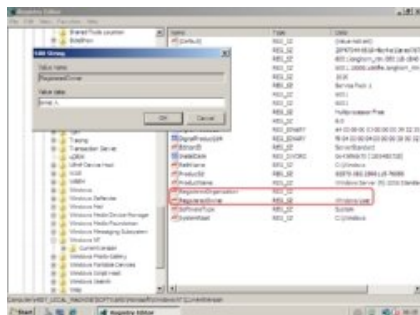
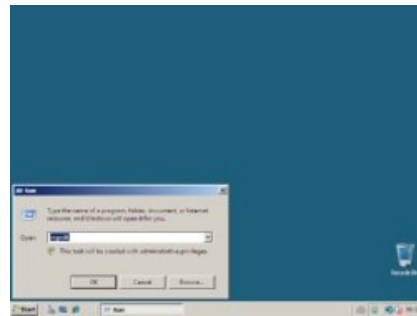
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Windows Server 2008 is by default installed with windows user as a computer owner. To change your computer owner information you will need to do following:

Click **Start** -> **Run** and type **regedit**. Click **OK**.



Navigate to **HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE** -> **SOFTWARE** -> **Microsoft** -> **Windows NT** -> **CurrentVersion**. Double click on **RegisteredOrganization** and **RegisteredOwner**. Enter your informations in **Value data** field.

To check if everything is fine click **Start** -> **Run** and type **winver**. About Windows will appear with new owner informations.



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Under construction:

1. Try installing the latest drivers developed for Vista and you'll be surprised how many drivers works on Windows Server 2008.

2. If you are installing **Windows Server 2008 in VMware** you will have to use older version of the Creative Sounblaster PCI 128 driver. Because VMware use a generic Creative PCI adapter. You can download driver here. (Thanks to DonDamm)

Let's move on to the next section!

Page 5 - IE Enhanced Security

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Disabling Internet Explorer Enhanced Security

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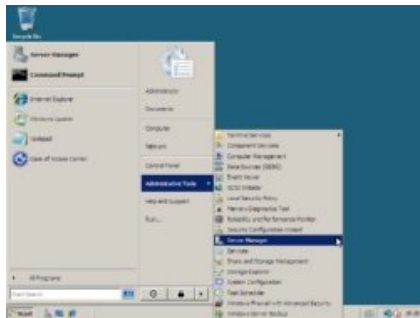
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Unable to browse sites? This section is for you.

A new security feature of Windows Server 2008 has set Internet Explorer to high security by default, so you won't be able to browse any sites. Want to fix this? Read on!

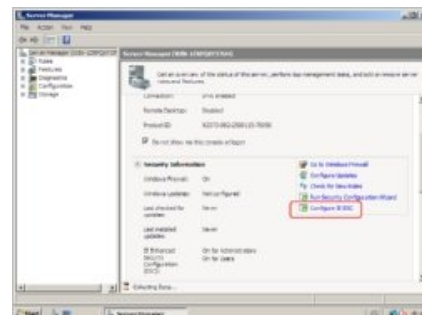
IE Enhanced Security Configuration has been moved from Add Remove Windows Components (on Windows 2003) to the Server Manager on Windows Server 2008.



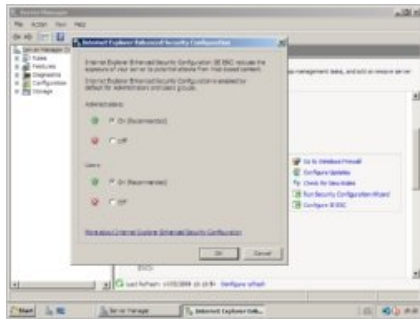
Internet Explorer Enhanced Security Configuration reduces the exposure of your server to potential attacks from web based content.

To remove Internet Explorer's Enhanced Security Configuration, we will need to do this via **Server Manager**.

Go to **Security Informations** -> **Configure IE ESC**.

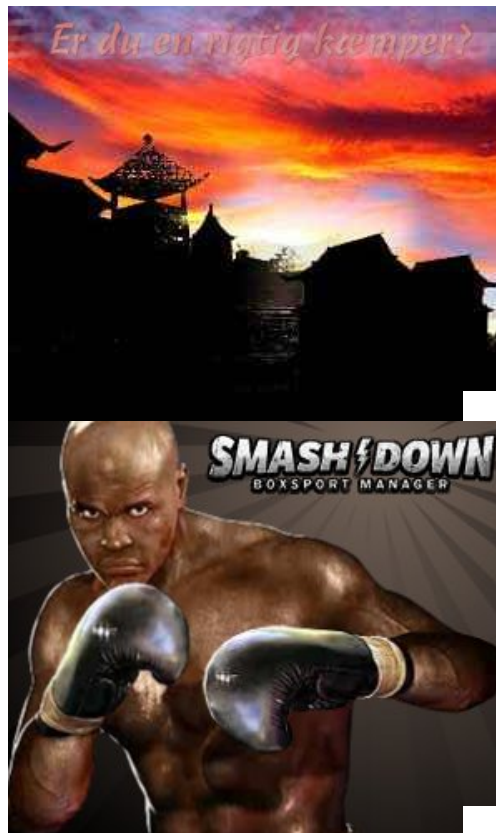


You now have a choice to disable it only for



Administrators. Click **OK** and **OK!**

Now fire up Internet Explorer and you'll be faced with the page as shown in the screenshot to the right, warning you that IE's Enhanced Security Configuration is not enabled. Simply change your homepage in Internet Explorer's options, and that's it, you won't be seeing it again!



As usual, read on to the next section!

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Enabling Wireless Network on Windows Server 2008

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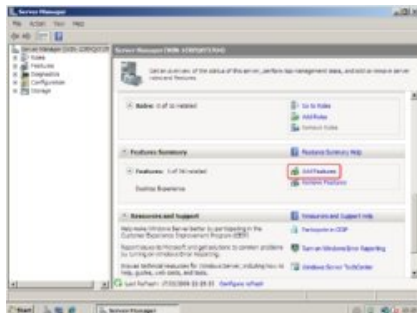
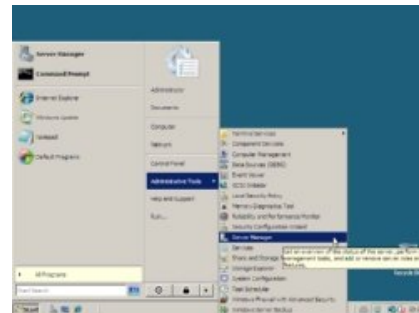
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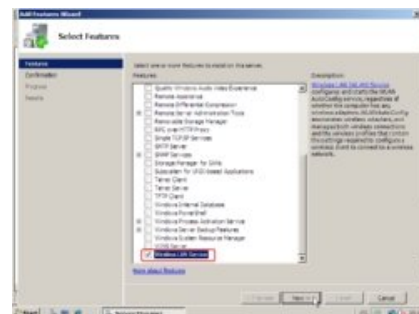
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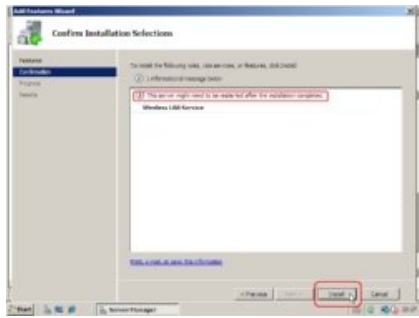
Click **Start -> Administrative Tools -> Server Manager.**



Scroll down on the right until you find **Add Features**. Click on **Add Features** and new window will appear.

Scroll down to the bottom and find **Wireless LAN Service**. Check it and click **Next**.





Click on **Install**. After installation is finished you will need to restart your computer. Wireless Networking will be installed on your computer.

Let's move on to the next section where you will learn how to install Java on Windows Server 2008.

Page 7 - Sun Java

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Windows Server 2008 ships without Microsoft Java VM, and Microsoft no longer hosts the necessary Java VM files. There are plenty of other places where you can obtain the MS Java VM, but I have not chosen to install it because:

1. It will no longer be updated to patch any forthcoming security exploits.
2. Many of the various download locations for MS Java VM differ in size, how would you know exactly which one to get?

If you do want the MS Java VM, then click here, download and install it, and then proceed onto the next section - Disabling the Shutdown Event Tracker.

Decided to get Sun's Java? Read on...

Grab a copy of Sun's Java VM from Sun's download page: [Click Here](#).

The installation process is easy, and it won't require a reboot either. Now lets move on to disabling the Shutdown Event Tracker, allowing us to reboot without the bloody nuisance of an event tracker window!

Page 8 - Disabling the Shutdown Event Tracker

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