Kodak

Windows 2003 or XP
Windows Activation

CONTENTS

1. Overview....1

2. Do you need to Activate....2
   2.1 Typical Activation Prompt....2
   2.2 See if you need Activation....3
   2.3 Activating too late....3

3. Activating Windows....4
   3.1 Activate through the Internet....4
   3.2 Activate by Telephone....4

4. FAQ....6

1. OVERVIEW

This document will discuss how to activate Windows that has either prompted for activation during a logon session, or when the OS has been locked out due to expiration of the Activation Grace Period.

This Procedure can be done either locally or remotely through Terminal Services in RSS, even if you have exceeded the Grace Period and have been locked out of your system.

For Kodak WFS Servers Activation of Windows will be bypassed by using a Magic Key (either imbedded in the Ghost Baseline Image, or entered manually at the time of install). There are times though when Windows will require activation or re-activation:

- The Windows Product-Key (Product-ID, CD-Key, the 5x 5 alpha numeric characters) from the Windows Label on the outside of the Server was used during the Mini-Setup of Windows.
- Activation had been somehow reset inside the OS itself.

Important Terms:

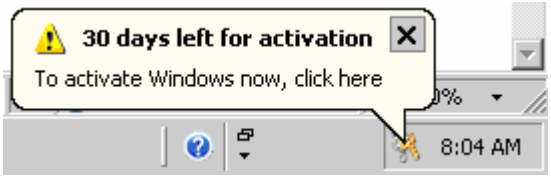
Term	Characters	Notes
Product Key or CD Key or License Key	25 AlphaNumeric	This is the key that is on the Windows Label affixed to the Server, or inside the Windows Box. This key is used to during the Windows Install (or Mini Setup) when it prompts you for a License Key. You can not use a Kodak VLA key, Retail Key, or HP OEM key for an OS built with a Dell Windows OEM CD
Installation ID	54 Numeric	This is generated based on the Product Key + the Hardware Configuration. Changes to your hardware will change this key.
Confirmation or **Activation Key**	42 Number	From the Installation ID Microsoft will respond back with the Confirmation Key. This key will complete Windows Activation.

2. DO YOU NEED TO ACTIVATE

2.1 Typical Activation Prompt

The Windows Activation is typically visible at the bottom right of the desktop and looks like:

Figure 1



If you click the keys you have the option to activate through the internet, or remind you every few days. Typically just activating through the internet should just work.

2.2 See if you need Activation

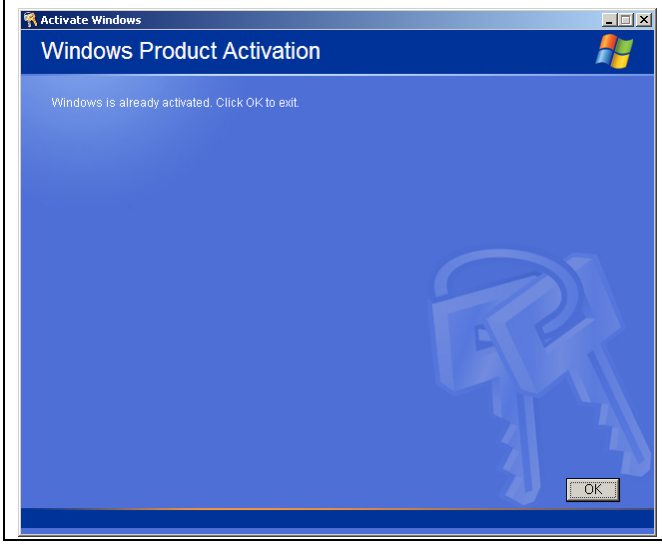
In some cases (ie. someone selected “remind me every few days” in the activation prompt above) you will not know if you need activation.

To see if Windows needs to be activated select **Start > Run** and type:
%WinDir%\System32\oobe\msoobe.exe /a

You will see either:

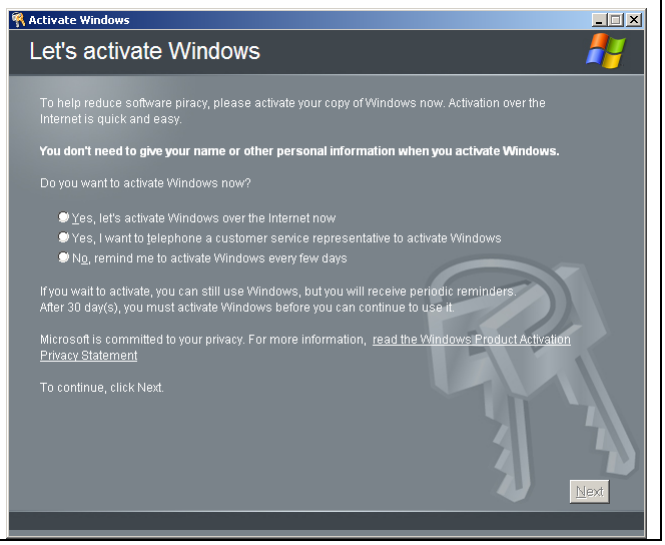
Activation is not needed

Figure 2



Activation Required

Figure 3



2.3 Activating too late

If you have not activated Windows within the grace period of 90 days you will be unable to log into Windows and will see the following message:

Figure 4



If this is the case you will only be able to

1. Activate Windows (either Manually or through the Internet)
2. Reboot into Safe Mode. There is little you can do in Safe Mode.

3. ACTIVATING WINDOWS

3.1 Activate through the Internet

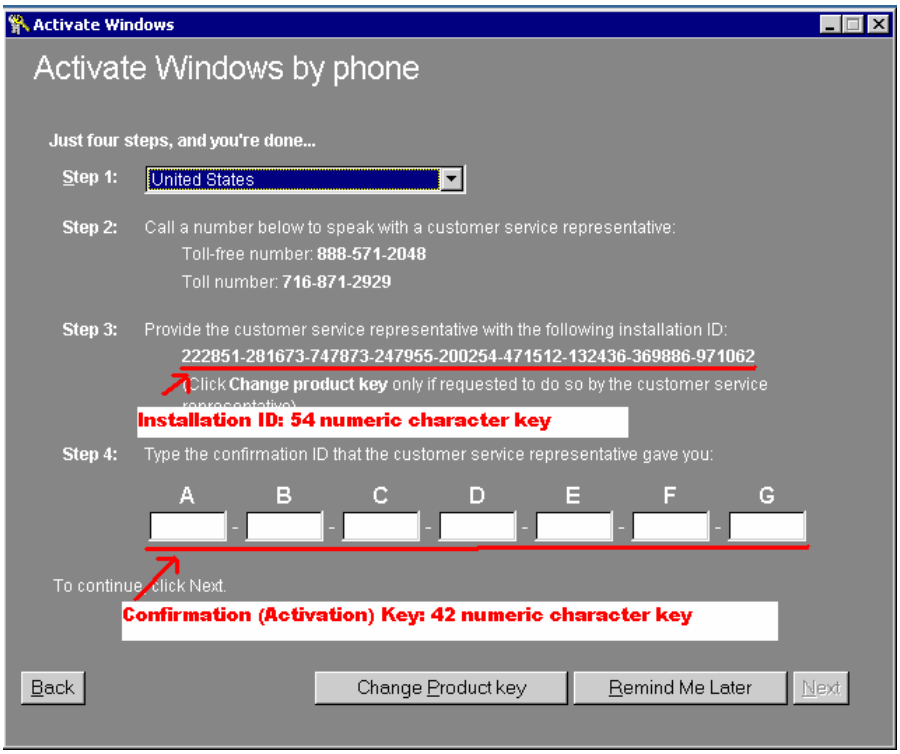
Normally, you should just select “Yes, let’s activate Windows over the Internet now” from the Keys prompt (Figure 3).

If activating through the Internet didn’t work you will need to activate manually through Telephone Support.

3.2 Activate by Telephone

This process will take appx 8min, even if you have to escalate to a support rep. It is also free, so no credit card required.

From the (Figure 3) select “Yes, I want to telephone a customer service representative” you will see the following window:



1. Call Microsoft at the listed number for your area as listed by selecting a country in **Step 1**. (ie. North America 888–571–2048).

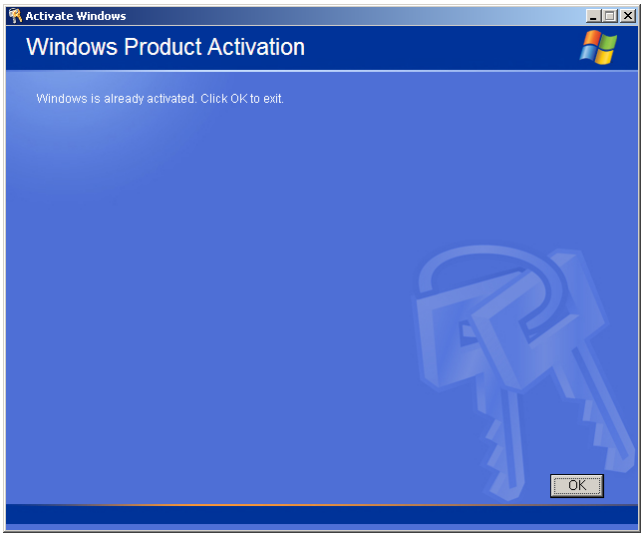
2. Follow the prompts to Activate Windows to the automated system. You will be prompted to say the Installation ID. The voice recognition is very good, but since you failed over the internet you will likely fail here too.

3. Say “Yes” to be connected to a customer service representative. They will ask to confirm the 1st 6 digits of your Installation ID.

4. Explain that this is a “**Baseline Ghost Image based off of a Windows Retail or Dell OEM CD**”. They will then give you a 42 character Confirmation (Activation) ID. Type it in and hit **Next > Finish**. You are now activated.

5. To verify Activation is complete select **Start > Run** and type:
   %WinDir%\System32\oobe\msoobe.exe /a
   You should see:

Figure 5



4. FAQ

Q: Can I use the same Product Key for multiple image activations?

A: Microsoft doesn't care about the Product Key other then for the initial Mini Setup when the Server was installed. All that is required is that each Server have its own Retail or OEM Windows License.

Q: Can I use a Windows 2003 Retail License for Windows 2003 OEM?

A: No. Retail and Server can not be mixed. The only time an OEM License can be used is if the License was sold with a new Server. Any other time, a Retail License of Windows 2003 must be purchased.

Q: Can I downgrade from Windows 2008 Standard Server to Windows 2003 Standard Server.

A: Yes. Windows 2008 Server allows downgrade rights to Windows 2003, for both Retail and OEM.

Purchased OS	Target OS	Comments
Windows 2008 Server OEM	Windows 2003 Server OEM	Downgrade supported
Windows 2008 Server Retail	Windows 2003 Server Retail	Downgrade supported
Windows 2008 Server Retail	Windows 2003 Server OEM	Mixed type not supported
Windows 2008 Server	Windows 2000 Server	Only allowed to downgrade one generation. Not supported.