

My fifth project involved partitioning hard drives, installing different Microsoft operating systems, and having the ability to do a quad-boot from a single PC. So, after I installed my new SSD for my DX4860, I started looking at the option of booting multiple operating systems on one PC. I've upgraded operating systems before, but I never had installed an operating system in real life. Most of my operating system installations were done through virtualization, so I had never done an installation on actual hardware. Also, after messing around with Linux on my T1140, I realized that I could boot up multiple operating systems on one PC.

Initially, I wanted to solely dual boot Windows 7 (which came pre-installed with the computer) and a Linux distro, such as Ubuntu. However, I soon realized that if I wanted to mess around with Linux I still had my T1140, as well as the ability to virtualize any Linux OS I wanted. I really wanted to mess with different versions of Windows (7, 8, and 10), including Windows Server 2016, because a lot of the job requirements I would see for most entry-level technical support/help desk jobs were requiring familiarity with these operating systems. I've used each one, but I never did install any operating system myself, or learn in depth about the device manager or the disc management system. Then that's when I got the idea to install each operating system onto my DX4860, making the system a quad boot. Now the DX4860 originally came with Windows 7, which I had done a fresh install of in an earlier project. So, now the idea was to put Windows 7, 8, and 10 onto the PC. It took some researching and reading, but I finally figured how to partition hard drive volumes, which allowed to install divide two hard drives, creating four hard drive partitions. After separating the hard drive volumes, I then installed each operating system on to each free hard drive partition, making sure not to rewrite a new OS over an existing operating system. After each install I made sure the operating system is functioning and that the OS is up-to-date. Once done installing the last OS (which was Windows Server 2016), I rebooted the PC and was greeted with a OS list that I was able to choose from, making the quad boot a success. Now I can mess with 4 different Windows operating systems hands on and gain some practical knowledge that I can document for the future.