

# Selecting Boot Drives

The Knoppix CD that came with this activity book contains lots of different programs that you can try out on your computer, and you can try them out without changing the programs already on your system. The CD is bootable on Windows and Linux machines, and may start up automatically when you boot up your computer with the CD loaded in the drive.

[If you are using a Mac, you cannot use this CD on your system. Check the CPU website for other Linux distributions that can run on Mac hardware.]

On many Windows systems, the setup program is preset to boot from a floppy or CD first if there are disks in those drives, and then try the main hard drive if no removable media is found. But if the CD doesn't start up automatically, you will need to adjust the boot order in your computer's setup program (or BIOS) to boot from the CD first instead of your hard drive. If you have the manuals that came with your computer, the boot order and setup keys should be listed. Otherwise, try the steps below.

The setup program is usually entered when you boot up your computer - by either turning on the power switch, or by restarting your system using Ctrl-Alt-Del.

BIOS manufacturers use a lot of different keys and key combinations to enter the setup program. The most common keys are:

- Del
- Esc
- F1
- F2
- F10
- Ctrl-Esc
- Ctrl-Alt-Esc
- Alt-Esc
- Ctrl-Alt-Enter

Not all computers use these keys, so you might have to experiment to see what works on your machine.

Once you enter the SET UP PROGRAM, make a backup (a paper copy is fine) of the current settings, so if anything goes wrong you can reset to settings you know will work. Once you have your backup complete, you need to check the boot order of the various disks on your computer. To make a bootable CD run, the CD drive has to be higher in the boot order list than the hard drive. Change the settings if needed, save the changes and reboot your computer. The Knoppix CD should boot.

More information about the setup program, BIOS and other cool tools is available on the CPU website.



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[www.n4hccs.org/computer](http://www.n4hccs.org/computer)

