

Lancaster Senior Citizen Center

Computer Tip No. 17

Find Your Product ID Key

CAUTION: BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN IN YOUR REGISTRY

If you've lost the Windows cardboard envelope that had the CD Key on the back of it and need to reinstall Windows, you can track down your CD Key by going into the Registry.

To begin, select the Run command on the Start menu and launch the Registry Editor by typing Regedit in the Open dropdown list box. Once the Registry Editor is up and running, locate and double-click on the HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE key. When this subtree is visible, open each of the following subkeys in succession:

Software => Microsoft => Windows => Current Version =>

On the right side panel, look for the Product ID.

Easy? Yes! But remember, do not change anything in the registry unless you know what you are doing. Be safe not sorry.