

## How To Access The Recovery Partition on Most Dell Laptops

**Problem:** You are trying to access the recover Partition on a Dell laptop, but can't seem to make the laptop boot into this Partition. You may need to do this if you need to reinstall Windows for what every reason.

**Solution:** The first thing that you will need to do is ensure that the laptop actually does have the hidden partition to begin with. To do this you will need to boot the laptop into Windows and log in. **Next** you will need to **right-click** on **My Computer** and then go to **Manage**. Now **click** on **Disk Management**. Look on the **right hand side** of the **screen** in the **top window** where **“C:”** is located and you should have **two** or **three** additional partitions. **One** will be about **30** to **40 megs**. This is the **diagnostics partition** and is not what you are looking for. If there is another one listed it should be around **2** to **4 gigs** depending on the **operating system**. **Note:** The **recovery partition** is not the one labeled **“C:”** it will more than likely be labeled as **“unknown”**. **Once** you have ensured that there is in fact a recovery partition you will need to **shut the computer down**. **DO NOT REBOOT**. Make sure the computer is **off** before you perform the next steps. Now on the **right side** of the keyboard hold down the **ctrl key** and the **F11 key**. **While** you are **holding down** those buttons use the other hand to press the **power button**. **DO NOT** let go of the **Ctrl key** and the **F11 key**. The laptop may start beeping because you are holding the keys down, but this is ok. **DO NOT** let go of them until the **recovery console appears**. Now follow the on screen instructions. **Note:** You have to have the laptop **off**

in order for the key combination to work, and you also must use the **right ctrl key**. If you use the **left ctrl key**; it will not work correctly.