

Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for ...



[NetworkPIMP](#) 5 posts since

Aug 13, 2008

I'm trying to install ESXi on a Dell Optiplex 740... when I boot from the CD (the latest U2 release with the license patch included), I get the initial boot screen with the progress bar... then it ticks 2-3 times, then prints a bunch of junk and dumps me back to the boot menu.

Any ideas??

This [page](#) says the 740 works - but not for me? I'm missing something, right? Tags: esxi, esxi_3.5, boot, install



[Dave.Mishchen...](#) 8,976 posts since

Nov 15, 2005 1. **Re: Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for testing/evaluation** Aug 16, 2008 8:26 PM

What sort of CPU do you have in the host? You might want to PM the guy that tested it and see if your hardware is similar. It may be a component that is causing the problem. Also take a look at this thread - <http://communities.vmware.com/thread/163274?tstart=0> to see if the error is similar.



[NetworkPIMP](#) 5 posts since

Aug 13, 2008 2. **Re: Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for testing/evaluation** Aug 17, 2008 6:20 AM

👤 in response to: [Dave.Mishchen...](#)

System has an AMD Athlon 64 X2 Dual Core 3800+ CPU.

Also, I tried running ESXi from USB stick and I get the same thing at the "Loading VMware Hypervisor" screen: progress bar gets a few ticks, then junk characters, then a boot: prompt.

I'm running the latest BIOS (2.1.8) as well...



[nick.couchman](#) 4,969 posts since

Jan 13, 2006 3. **Re: Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for testing/evaluation** Aug 17, 2008 3:48 PM

👤 in response to: [NetworkPIMP](#) Works for me on the Optiplex 755, which is the Core2 processor. I didn't run the install, though - just booted from a usb stick.



[Peter_vm](#) 9,058 posts since

Feb 1, 2006 4. **Re: Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for testing/evaluation** Aug 17, 2008 5:33 PM

👤 in response to: [nick.couchman](#) How relevant is success with Optiplex 755 to the problems with Optiplex 740?


Could it be that despite both being Dell, they are actually distinct hardware designs? 🤔



[NetworkPIMP](#) 5 posts since

Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for ...

Aug 13, 2008 5. **Re: Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for testing/evaluation** Aug 17, 2008 6:36 PM

 in response to: [Peter_vm](#) Well, interestingly enough... I have 2 optiplex 740's, and 2 optiplex 740 "enhanced" (from a more recent order) - ESXi will install and run fine on the "enhanced" ones, but not on the "regular ones" - so it must be some problem with a component.



[andrewallen](#) 2 posts since


Jul 30, 2008 6. **Re: Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for testing/evaluation** Aug 19, 2008 1:54 PM

It's related to the Bios version - I had it working fine on 1.1.8, but I thought I'd update to the latest 2.1.8, at which point it broke just like you... currently investigating rolling back the bios version (if possible).



[andrewallen](#) 2 posts since

Jul 30, 2008 7. **Re: Install on a Dell Optiplex 740 for testing/evaluation** Aug 19, 2008 2:20 PM

 in response to: [andrewallen](#) Odd and annoying - went back through all version available and ended back up at 1.1.8 - any newer versions than this don't work.

Also, don't leave your usb key in when booting up successfully - ESX throws a wobbly and gives a pink screen of death...