

INACCESSIBLE_BOOT_DEVICE Guide

Practical computer help written for everyday users

Safety: Back up important data when possible. Power off and unplug equipment before opening a computer. Stop if you see liquid damage, smoke, burning smell, or a failing drive.

Common causes

- Storage controller mode changed, failed update, damaged boot files, disconnected drive, or drive failure.

Fix order

- Confirm the boot drive appears in BIOS.
- Restore the previous SATA or storage-controller mode.
- Use Startup Repair.
- Use System Restore or uninstall the latest quality update.
- Check drive health from another PC or recovery environment.

Data safety

- Do not repeatedly reinstall Windows onto a drive that disappears or reports critical health.

This guide is educational and cannot identify every hardware or data-loss risk remotely. Use the exact manual for your device or motherboard when firmware settings differ.