Windows 2012 Password Recovery Process

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Instructions

To reset the password on your Windows 2012 server, simply complete the following steps:

- Boot from the Micrsoft Windows Server 2012 DVD
- From the Windows Setup menu, click **"Next"**.
- Select **"Repair your computer"**
- Under Choose and option, click on **"Troubleshoot"**.
- Under Advanced options, click **"Command Prompt"**.
- At the command prompt, run the following commands:
  d:
  cd windows\system32
  ren Utilman.exe Utilman.exe.old
  copy cmd.exe Utilman.exe
- Close the command prompt and then click **"Continue"**.
- The server should now boot and present the logon screen. Here click **Windows Key + U**.
- At the prompt you can now change the password, by typing the following command:
  net user administrator Password123
  This will set the password for the Administrator user to be Password123 (case sensitive).

Closing the command prompt, you should now be able to log back onto the server using the password you have provided in the last step.

Cleanup Steps

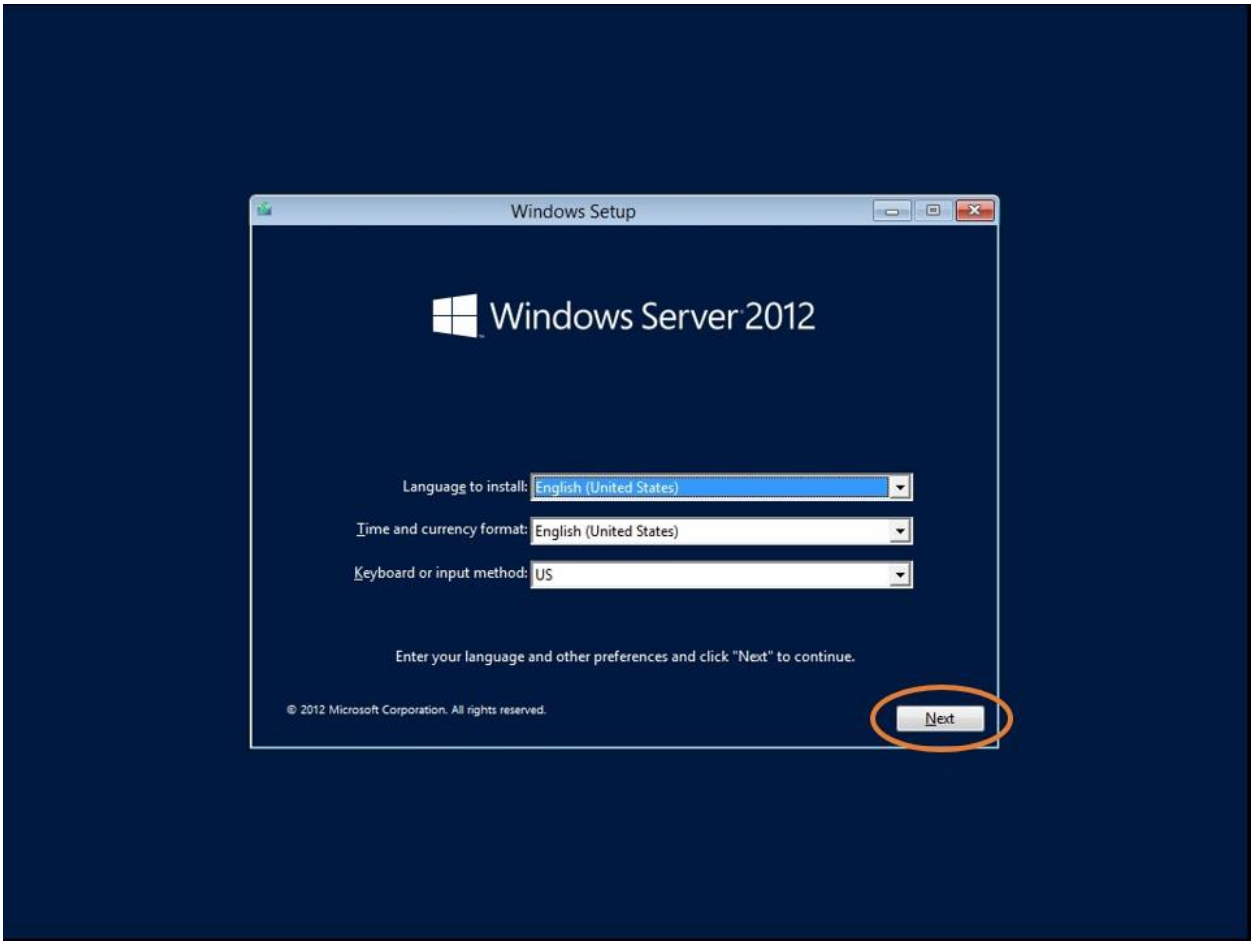
Once you have verified you can log on to the server you will have repeat the steps above and boot using the Windows Server 2008 DVD/ISO and run the command prompt again.

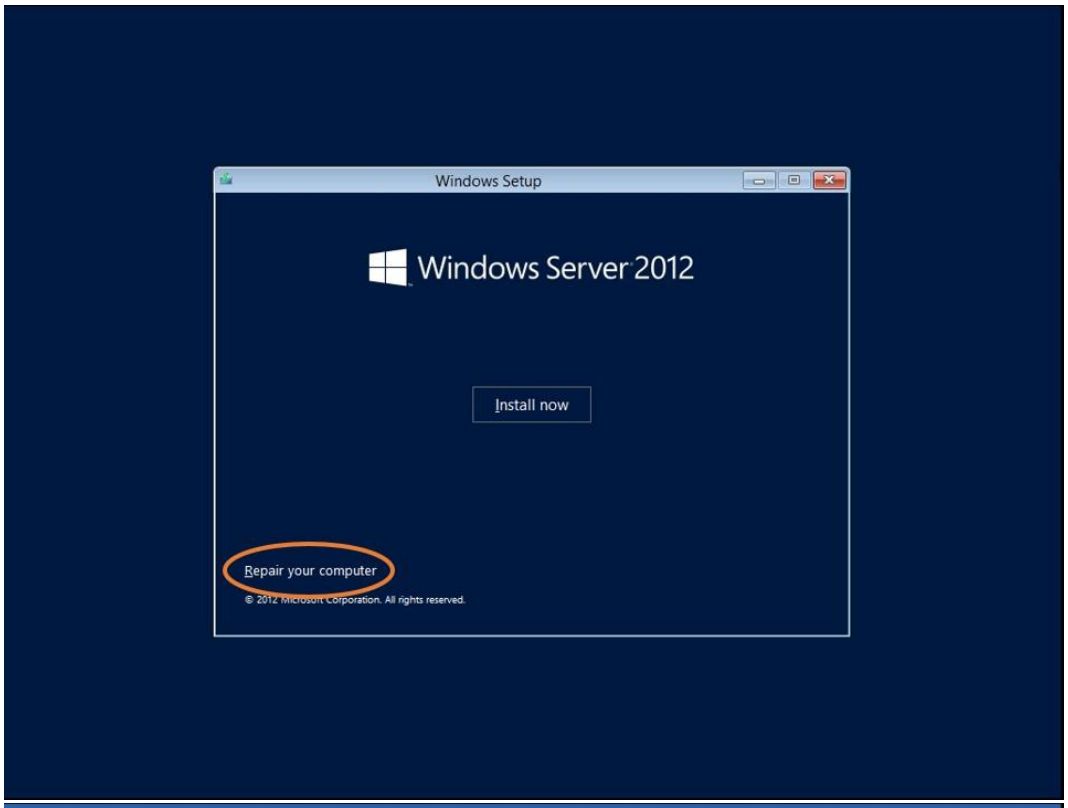
- Restart your server and once again, boot from the Micrsoft Windows Server 2012 DVD
- From the Windows Setup menu, click **"Next"**.

- Select **“Repair your computer”**
- Under Choose and option, click on **“Troubleshoot”**.
- Under Advanced options, click **“Command Prompt”**.
- At the command prompt, run the following commands:
  d:
  cd windows\system32
  ren utilman.exe utilman.exe.new
  copy utilman.exe.old utilman.exe
- Close the command prompt and then click **“Continue”**.

You should be back up and running as if nothing ever happened.

Screenshots




Windows Setup
Windows Server 2012
Install now
Repair your computer
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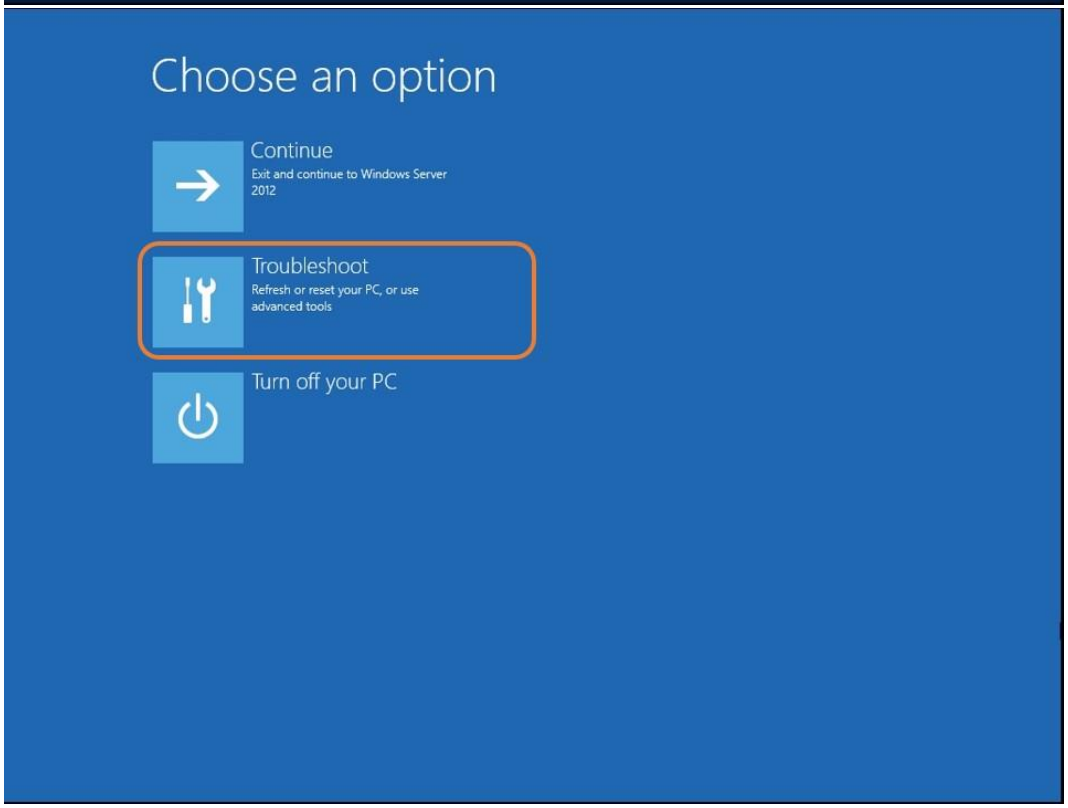
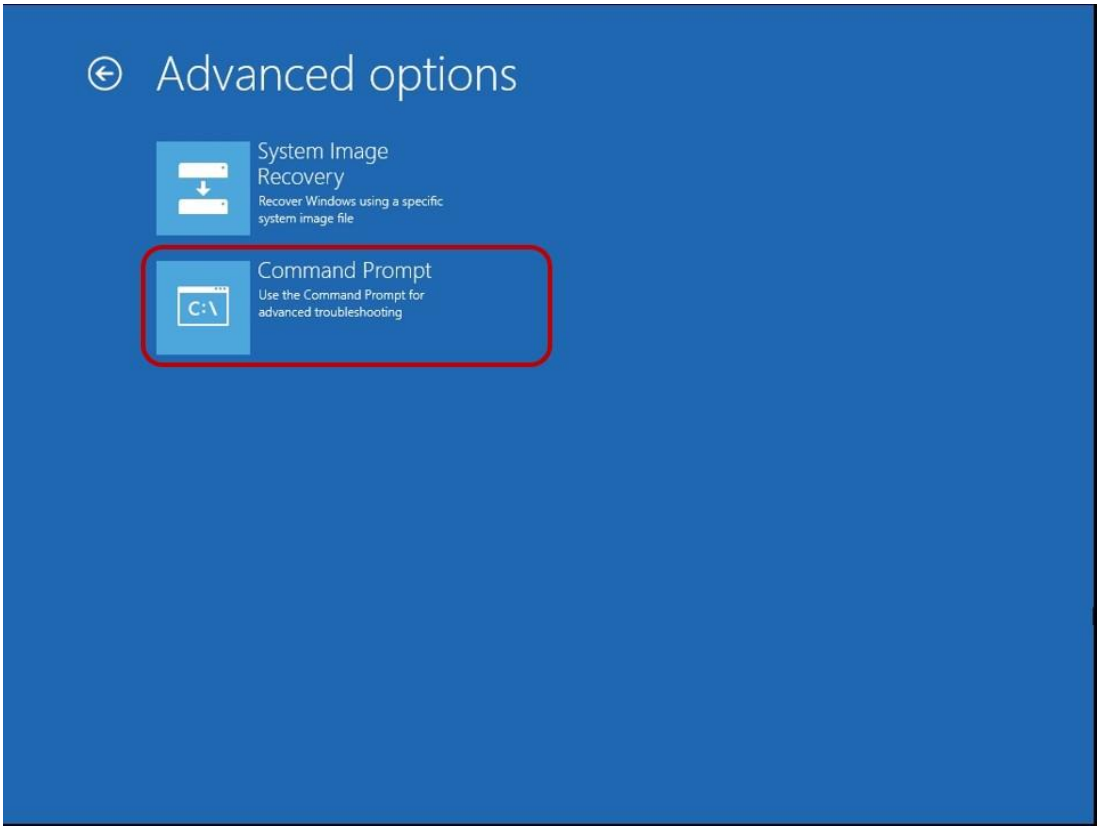
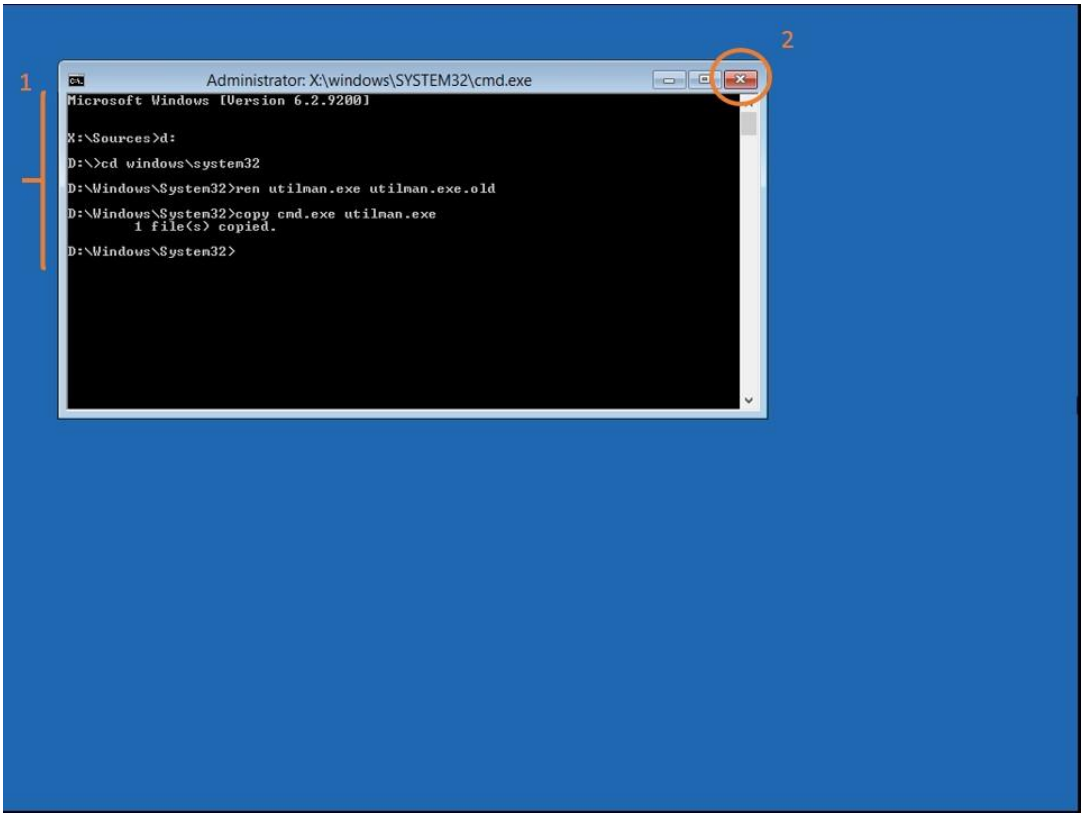
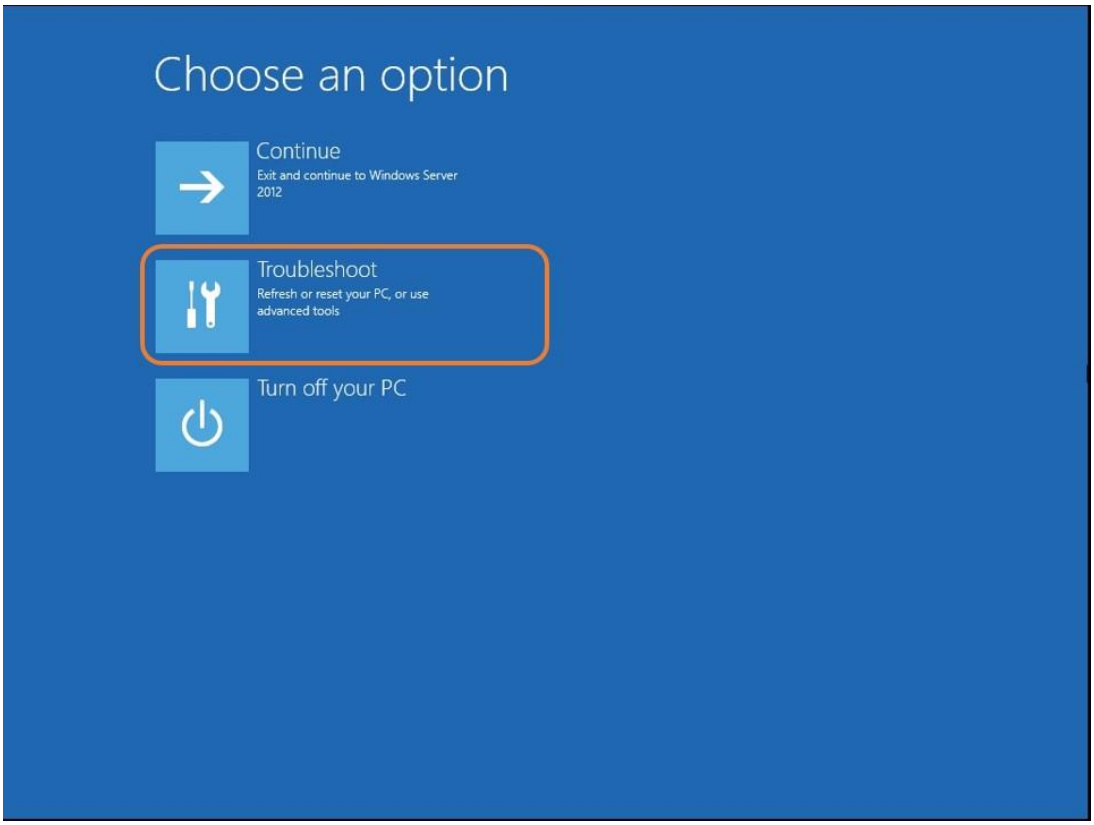

Choose an option
Continue
Exit and continue to Windows Server 2012
Troubleshoot
Refresh or reset your PC, or use advanced tools
Turn off your PC


Advanced options
System Image Recovery
Recover Windows using a specific system image file
Command Prompt
Use the Command Prompt for advanced troubleshooting


1
2
Administrator: X:\windows\SYSTEM32\cmd.exe
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.2.9200]
X:\Sources>d:
D:\>cd windows\system32
D:\Windows\System32>ren utilman.exe utilman.exe.old
D:\Windows\System32>copy cmd.exe utilman.exe
1 file(s) copied.
D:\Windows\System32>


Choose an option
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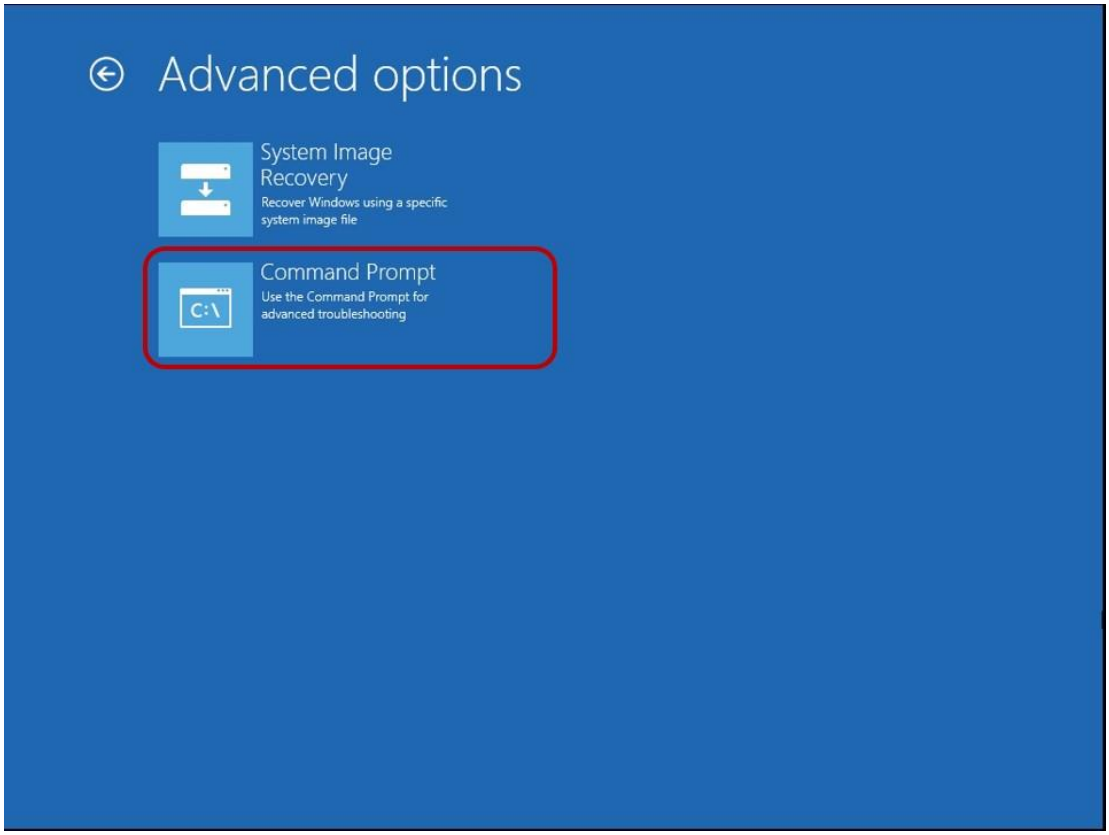
Advanced options
System Image Recovery
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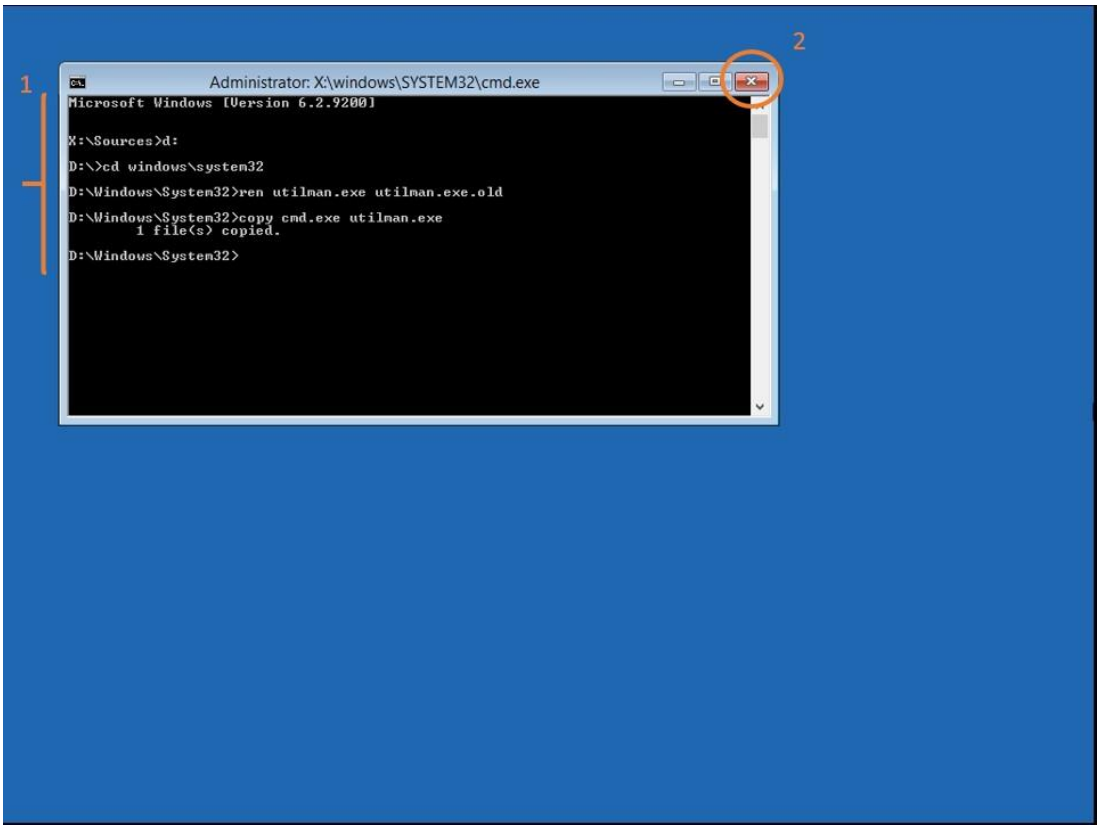
C:\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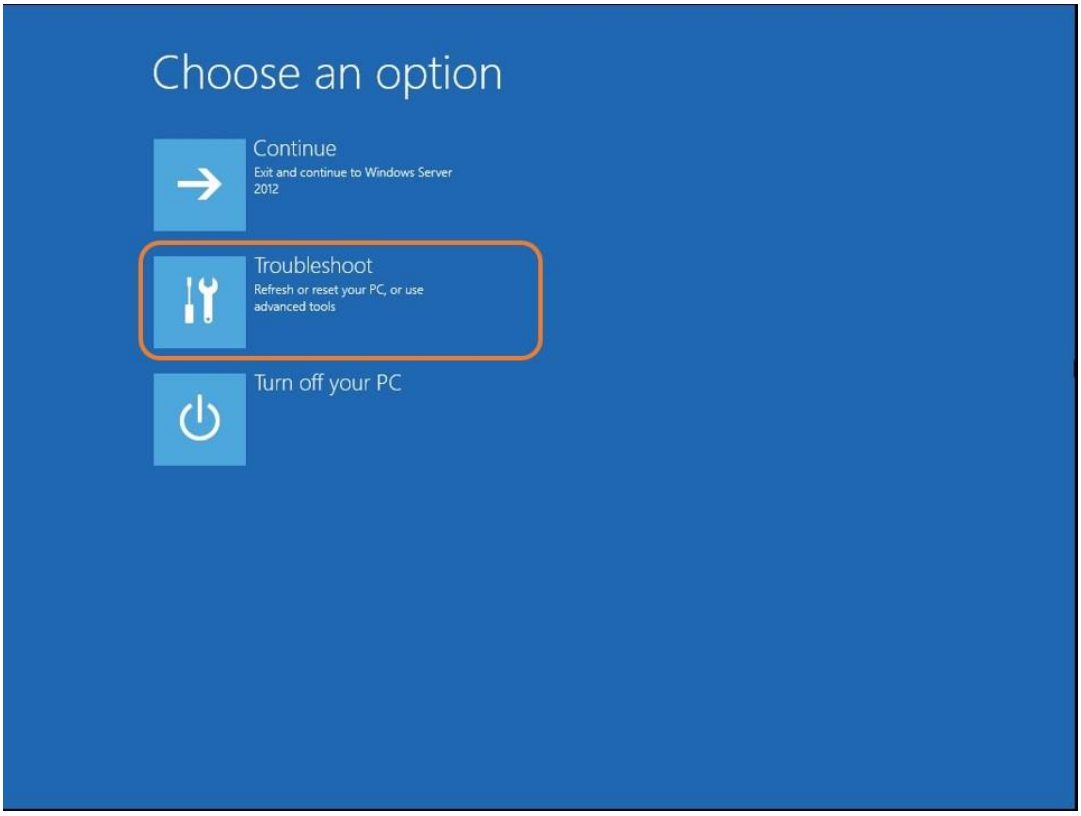
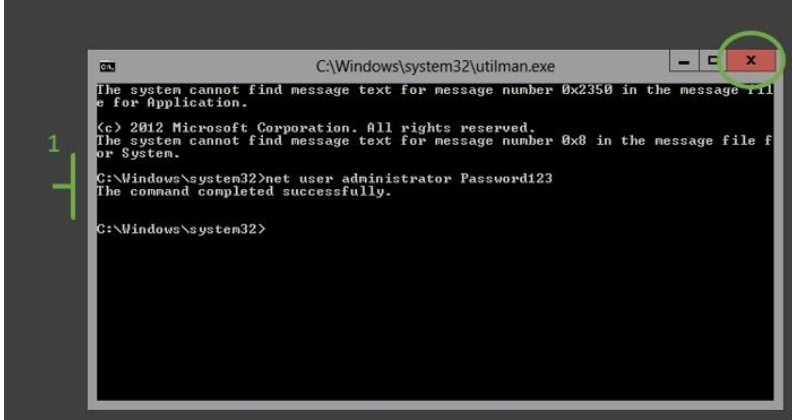

Choose an option
Continue
Exit and continue to Windows Server 2012
Troubleshoot
Refresh or reset your PC, or use advanced tools
Turn off your PC

Press Ctrl+Alt+Delete to sign in.

Press Windows Key + U

09:57

Tuesday 17 September



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Tuesday 17 September