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Error related to "invalid product activation key"™ is quite common with Microsoft products. It may spoil the joy of getting a new Windows or Microsoft Office edition on your system. Tech support vendors reckon that there are three possible reasons behind the scene. The first, there can be typos, being a human-error, it happens most of the times. No alternatives exist rather than getting it typed again. The second, the product key you are entering can be of some other version. Check the product key to make sure it is for the version that you are trying to activate. Never assume that Windows 7 with Service Pack 1 (SP1) and Windows 7 without SP1 can be activated with a single product key. And the third, you might be using a product key valid for upgrade, but unfortunately don't have any previous version of Windows or Office installed. To install an upgrade version of Windows 7, Windows Vista or Windows XP must be installed on your computer. Remember, if you have formatted the drive before starting the installation process, you won't be able to use the upgrade product key to activate Windows 7.

Abiding by PC HELP guide, you can avoid hassles related to the installation and activation of new products on your system. Listen to the Windows Compatibility Center before installing or configuring any new software or hardware product on/with your machine. Usually, Windows compatibility logo is attached with compatible products. The software publisher or device manufacturer also specifies whether their products will work with 64-bit and/or 32-bit Windows 7. Each built of Windows also accompany a specific download tool such as Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor that can evaluate the system configuration in advance, so that your decision doesn't go wrong. Windows 7 Easy Transfer is another helpful resource from Microsoft that will take care of your user account information, data, email, computer settings and more that you need with your new PC.

How-to and video tutorials available at Microsoft Support can be of great advantage. Just copy the error message or numeric code that you are getting on the system screen and search on the portal to find a reliable solution to fix computer issue. At times, error messages may be followed by suggestion from Microsoft Fix It Center. It may read out as how to fix the problem using the automated tool. Easy user-interface of the tool will guide you to troubleshoot the system successfully.

Online computer technical support can come at important juncture, when you are trapped in activation issue. Experts can read system compatibility, backup valuable data, and install or upgrade the operating system or Microsoft Office as per requirement. They can remove incompatible elements from your computer either through the Windows Control Panel or running any uninstaller tool. At times, advanced troubleshooting is required that involves Windows Event Viewer and the registry settings. Post Windows installation, experts can transfer your data, reinstall drivers and configure your peripherals as per demand. They may use third-party or the Microsoft provided tools as per demand. Eventually, you can resume computing in an error-free and secure state.

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