

# Bitlocker - Cannot Enable

Various errors can cause Bitlocker to error out on enabling.

The path specified in the Boot Configuration Data (BCD) for a BitLocker Drive Encryption integrity-protected application is incorrect. Please verify and correct your BCD settings and then try again.

Fix comes from "BitLocker Wizard Initialization Has Failed" at [this page](#).

## BitLocker Wizard Installation Has Failed

After installing Server 2016 updates and rebooting a couple days ago, BitLocker came up in a suspended state for drive C:. When I clicked on **Resume protection**, I got this popup: "Wizard initialization has failed. The path specified in the Boot Configuration Data (BCD) for a BitLocker Drive Encryption integrity-protected application is incorrect. please verify and correct your BCD settings and try again."

### Bitlocker wizard failed 1

This is common enough that there is a Microsoft knowledge base article about it: [KB929834](#). The article correctly identifies the issue: BCD has lost track of the boot manager and memory diagnostic (though it doesn't explain how this happens). Unfortunately, the article's Resolution instructions do not work, as they assume that the System partition has a drive letter, which it does not.

[This Veritas article](#) has the right info about identifying and specifying the System partition (though they are talking about a backup/restore issue).

1. From an administrative command prompt, run these two commands to confirm the issue:

```
bcdedit /enum {bootmgr}
bcdedit /enum {memdiag}
```

You'll see that the Device is "unknown":

### Bitlocker wizard failed 2

(You can also run `bcdedit /enum all` to check for the Resume from Hibernate settings, another potential issue mentioned in KB929834. Those settings already had a Device filled in on my machine.)

2. To identify the System volume, run `diskpart` then `list volume`:

Bitlocker wizard failed 3

In the left column, note the volume number of the System partition (4 in my case). Type `exit` to get out of diskpart.

3. Run the following commands, substituting the volume number found in the previous step:

```
bcdedit -set {BOOTMGR} device partition=\Device\HarddiskVolume4  
bcdedit -set {MEMDIAG} device partition=\Device\HarddiskVolume4
```

Bitlocker wizard failed 4

4. Confirm that the both now have a Device listed:

Bitlocker wizard failed 5

5. Under BitLocker management settings, click **Resume protection**. It should work now:

Bitlocker wizard failed 6

In our case, device was correct for {bootmgr} but not for {memdiag}:

```
C:\Windows\System32>bcdedit /enum {bootmgr}


Windows Boot Manager
-----
identifier            {bootmgr}
device                partition=\Device\HarddiskVolume1
path                  \EFI\Microsoft\Boot\bootmgfw.efi
description            Windows Boot Manager
locale                en-US
inherit                {globalsettings}
default                {current}
resumeobject           {93838f25-f39b-11ef-9c72-1098192e54f2}
displayorder           {current}
toolsdisplayorder      {memdiag}
timeout                30


C:\Windows\System32>bcdedit /enum {memdiag}

Windows Memory Tester
-----
identifier            {memdiag}
device                locate=\EFI\Microsoft\Boot\memtest.efi
path                  \EFI\Microsoft\Boot\memtest.efi
description            Windows Memory Diagnostic
locale                en-US
inherit                {globalsettings}
badmemoryaccess        Yes
```

Microsoft confirms that the correct setting for this is for the Device to be set to the System Partition.

After making this change, the Bitlocker script with Mountpoint C: successfully enabled BitLocker:

 **Enable-Bitlocker**  
Enable-BitLocker -MountPoint C: -RecoveryPasswordProtector -...

 PowerShell

Maintenance

Drive Type:	Local Disk	Auto Mount:	Yes
Disk Usage:	130.3 / 953.0 GB (14%)	Compressed:	No
File System:	NTFS	Page File:	Yes
Max File Name Length:	255	Indexing:	Yes
Bitlocker Status:	Enabled		
Recovery Key:	*****		

Revision #5

Created 12 March 2025 16:01:43 by Alex Gallegos

Updated 12 March 2025 16:33:23 by Alex Gallegos