**Troubleshooting: Windows 11 SQL Server Installation Error**

**Question:**

When I install SQL Server on Windows 11, there is an error message:

Wait on the Database Engine recovery handle failed. Check the SQL Server error log for potential cause.

After I click ‘OK’ on the error, the installation is completed with Database Engine Services and SQL Server Replication failures. The SQL Server Service will not start. Why?



**Possible Reason:**

On Windows 11 systems, some storage devices and device drivers will expose a disk sector size larger than 4 KB. In this case, the SQL Server will be unable to start as SQL Server currently supports sector storage sizes of 512 bytes and 4 KB.

**Solution:**

1. Uninstall/Remove all the existing SQL Server.
2. Add a registry key to force the disk sector size to 4 KB.

Run the Command Prompt as Administrator > Copy and Paste the query below > Press Enter

REG ADD "HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\stornvme\Parameters\Device" /v "ForcedPhysicalSectorSizeInBytes" /t REG\_MULTI\_SZ /d "\* 4095" /f



1. Restart the PC.
2. Reinstall the SQL Server. It is recommended to install SQL Server 2016 and above.

To download Microsoft SQL Server 2019 Express edition, please click the following link:

[Microsoft SQL Server 2019 Express Edition](https://download.microsoft.com/download/7/c/1/7c14e92e-bdcb-4f89-b7cf-93543e7112d1/SQLEXPR_x64_ENU.exe)

1. Under the Server Configuration page, make sure the Startup Type for SQL Server Database Engine is Manual or Disabled.



1. The installation should be working fine now.
2. After that, go to Windows Start > type Services > click on Windows Services.msc



1. Right Click SQL Server Service > Properties > Change the Startup Type back to Automatic



Note: Please contact your software dealer if the problem still persists.