

Any way to run scandisk on external USB drive?

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Running Win XP SP1, I'm trying to run scandisk (via drive Properties + Tools + Error-checking) on an external USB disk which requires Windows to be running before it can be seen by the system. Whenever I try to run Scandisk it says "The disk check could not be performed because the disk check utility needs exclusive access to some Windows files on the disk. These files can be accessed only by restarting Windows. Do you want to schedule this disk check to occur the next time you restart the computer?" If I select "Yes", the disk check does not run when I restart the computer because the system can't "see" the drive until Windows is running, by which time it's too late for it to run! Is there any way to get around this catch 22? Or is there any third party scandisk utility that's more intelligent about USB drives?

Dave