

Re: fdisk problem...

Source:

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From: Malke (*malke_at_nospoonnotreally.com*)

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J wrote:

- > Thanks for responding,
- >
- > The thing is that after booting from a bootable w98se cd that I made,
- > boot up goes normally until I hit the "y" or "n" to fdisk's "enable
- > large hard disk support" or something very like that, and then I've
- > got a black screen with a solitary blinking cursor where the "y" or
- > "n" used to be, and the machine sits at that screen forever.
- >
- > Originally, I thought I'd intercept boot up,, and fiddle with hex. so
- > that the system didn't discover two active partitions, one on each
- > drive.
- >
- > Perhaps the hard-disks are incompatible, one is a WD13gb Caviar and
- > the now
- > slave 5gb one is a Quantum Fireball. They seem to be recognized ok in
- > bios etc.
- >
- > One thing that keeps crossing my mind is that there is an issue with
- > the MSI cd-rom drive; if I leave the bootable W98se cd in that MSI
- > master drive and hard-boot, post detects the two hd's and then hangs
- > before either cd drive
- > is recognized. If I put the bootable Win98se cd in the slave Liteon
- > rw drive the system boots okay but, I get the same problem as when
- > it's in the MSI cd-rom drive, with fdisk.exe i.e. I hit the "y" or "n"
- > to fdisk's "enable large hard disk support" or something very like
- > that, and then I've got a black screen with a solitary blinking cursor
- > where the "y" or "n" used to be, and the machine sits at that screen
- > forever.
- >
- > Anyway, I admitted defeat the other night and left that slave 5gb hd
- > disconnected !

Hi - Gracious, you *do* like to fiddle with things, don't you? The mark of a True Geek - Play With Stuff Until It Breaks. ;-) You may have an issue with the motherboard. Sorry to say (and maybe you already knew

this), but PCChips m/b's are known for being cheap and crappy. What I'd try with the little old drive is to delete its partitions using something like Partition Magic or BootItNG instead of fdisk. It still may be usable. Otherwise, trash it. You know it is old and maybe it's not healthy any more. I sincerely doubt your Auntie will need it, unless she's a Wild And Crazy Lady who likes to download a lot of mp3's (hey, it could happen).

Cheers,

Malke

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MS MVP - Windows Shell/User
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"Don't Panic!"