

## Re: Best size of partitions for 160 Gb data

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2004-05/14311.html>

---

**From:** Mr. Grinch (*grinch\_at\_hatespam.yucky*)

**Date:** 05/14/04

Date: Fri, 14 May 2004 11:50:04 GMT

Mark M <MarkM\_csiphsCANT\_RECEIVE\_MAIL@yahoo.co.uk> wrote in  
news:94E6C4297B8E53A75@130.133.1.4:

- > *How should I partition my 160 GB drive?*
- >
- > *I want to store about 150 GB of data on my 160 GB hard drive.*
- > *I will use XP to access and to manage this data. The file system*
- > *will probably be NTFS.*
- >
- > *From a technical and practical point of view, should I have just*
- > *one large 160 GB partition or should I break it up into two or*
- > *three smaller partitions?*
- >
- > *Personally, I don't mind if the data is split up.*
- >
- > *The data is 85% jpegs (50 KB to 200 KB) and 15% video (50 MB to 400*
- > *MB).*

The answer depends not only on the type of data, but how you use it.

For example, one pro for small partitions: it may be easier for you to deal with smaller chunks, for things like backups and restores. It's quicker to read the backup catalog for a smaller partition than one 4x the size, and quicker to restore too. Or perhaps some data types stay static while others change a lot, so you handle those partitions differently.

One con is your unused disk is spread across several partitions. If you need to save new stuff, the biggest new file size or folder size is then limited to the partition with the most free space. In a single large partition, all the free space exists as one consolidated amount.

I don't like dealing with the unused space being spread across multiple partitions. I end up moving stuff around just to make enough free space to save something new, or splitting up the new stuff across multiple partitions. Both waste time. So I prefer one big partition when possible.

microsoft.public.windowsxp.general: Re: Best size of partitions for 160 Gb data

Currently, I use one drive for operating systems boot partitions. That's the only one I have multiple partitions on, one per OS. The rest are all one partition per drive. One for each for apps, games(also page file), music, video, and backups(also temp/scratch/working data).

Some are Fat32, (so I can get at them from WinME) some are NTFS (Server 2003). The reason I needed NTFS was for files over 4GB in size, which you can't have in Fat32. Images for DVDs and vide