

Re: slave h/d?

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From: Al Smith (*invalid_at_address.com*)

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> *how do you install a slave hard-drive? I just wanted to know because I have
> an extra hard-drive laying around and I could use the extra space*

You've got two flat white cables inside your computer case, usually called ribbon cables because they look like broad ribbons. Your present harddrive is attached to the end of one of them. There are two plugs for such things as harddrives and CD drives on each cable. The plug at the end is the "master" position, and the plug in the middle of the ribbon cable is the "slave" position.

If the plug in the middle of the cable that your present harddrive is attached to happens to be free, that's a good place to put your second harddrive. You must set your second harddrive to "slave" by moving a little plastic chicklet thing at the back of the harddrive, called a jumper, to the "slave" position. There will likely be a label on the harddrive showing you the positions for the jumper.

There are four jumper positions — master, slave, cable select and single. The "single" position for the jumper is used when the harddrive is the only one on its ribbon cable. When there are two drives on the cable, the one on the end should be set to "master" and the one on the plug in the middle of the cable should be set to "slave". The "cable select" position is designed to eliminate all the jumper confusion. A drive set to "cable select" should work no matter where it is put on the ribbon cable, or whether it is alone or with another drive. A lot of people don't trust "cable select" and still use the older master-slave jumper settings.

After setting your second harddrive to "slave", you must check to insure that your present drive is set to "master" — it may be set to "single". If the jumpers on both harddrives are correct, it's just a matter of attaching the new drive in its slot in the case with a couple of screws, plugging in the ribbon cable, plugging in the power cable, and booting from the floppy that comes with the new harddrive to configure the new drive.

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Take a look at which brand your second harddrive is, go on the Web site for that drive maker, and download their drive configuration software, then install the software on a floppy. After the drive is installed, just boot from that floppy and the software will take you through the drive configuration process.