

Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2005-08/msg13247.html>

- *From:* "R. McCarty" <PcEngWork-NoSpam @xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 23 Aug 2005 07:03:48 -0400
-

Anna,

About the terminology. XP won't install to Removable devices and in most cases this includes external devices. I myself have a IDE Tray in my PC. However, while the physical device is removable –it's connection to the PC is not, so XP enumerates the device as it would any "Fixed" drive.

I have a external Maxtor drive on a USB2 port. It's fine for what it does but both USB and to some extent Firewire has a high amount of "Overhead" that reduces their throughput. Because of this my external has a fairly low average of around ~25 Megabytes a second.

SCSI has provided external drive support for a long time and the new iSCSI (Serial) will have the same. I'm testing an external SATA drive to be able to obtain higher throughput and bootable capability. There are a number of SATA cards that have external connectors. The new SATA-II standards raise the throughput up to 300 Megs a second. Later this year, commercial vendors will offer SATA type external drives. I also have seen where many devices will have all three technology interfaces (USB2, Firewire & SATA-II).

Anyway it's new and something to consider as a faster/bootable external option. It's performance mirrors that of traditional internal SATA drives. As of now there are only a few vendors who provide external SATA drive enclosures – but more will appear.

"Anna" <myname@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:OfE4IT5pFHA.3888@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

>>> "Vasanth" wrote:

>>>

>>> | I want to install windows 2003 in my external hard disk connect thro

>>> | USB. I have win xp in my primary hard disk. Can it be doen. Please

>>> | advise.

>>> |

>>> | Vasanth

>

>

Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk

>> "Carey Frisch [MVP]" <cnfrisch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
>> news:upJ0ydxpFHA.3340@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>>> A Windows operating system cannot be installed on an external drive.
>>> --
>>> Carey Frisch
>>> Microsoft MVP
>>> Windows XP – Shell/User
>>> Microsoft Newsgroups
>
>
> "R. McCarty" <PcEngWork-NoSpam_@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
> news:Orr1usxpFHA.2580@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>> Removable and not even that is 100% encompassing now that there
>> are external SATA drives that to Windows looks like a "Fixed Drive".
>
>
> Mr. McCarty:
> I would appreciate clarification of your above comment. First of all, I
> believe you would agree that to the best of our knowledge, one cannot boot
> from a USB external HD containing the XP OS, at least those external
> devices containing the usual (IDE) PATA hard drive. And as far as I know,
> a SATA drive used as a USB external HD is similarly not bootable in an XP
> environment.
>
> I assume your comment about "external SATA drives that to Windows looks
> like a Fixed Drive" (and thus are bootable to an XP OS), refers to those
> external enclosures (usually a combo USB/SATA unit) that can contain a
> SATA drive and utilize a SATA data connection. In those instances an
> *external* SATA data port on the computer would be necessary to make that
> device practical in terms of its capability of booting to XP. Many of the
> newer motherboards contain such a port so it would appear this could be a
> practical & effective solution overcoming the limitation of USB external
> hard drives in this area. I haven't yet worked with any of these devices,
> and assuming you have, I would be interested in learning of your
> experience with them.
>
> BTW, I infer from your comment about removable drives (at least I *think*
> you're referring to removable hard drives in mobile racks) that you're
> questioning the booting capability of those devices. Based upon my
> considerable experience with removable hard drives over the past five
> years or so, I've found virtually *no* problem in this area when using
> these devices. In fact, I strongly recommend their installation for many
> users. Yes, like any other computer component, we'll come across a
> defective unit now and then. But by & large, in my experience, they work,
> and work well.
>
> Note to Vasanth...
> As Carey has informed you, you cannot *directly* install the Windows XP OS
> (I assume that's the OS you're referring to) to a USB external HD;
> however, using a disk imaging program such as Symantec's Norton Ghost or
> Acronis True Image, you can "clone" the contents of your internal HD

Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk

- > containing the Windows XP to the USBEHD. While the USBEHD will not be
- > bootable under those circumstances, you can "re:clone" the contents of the
- > USBEHD back to your internal HD for restoration purposes.
- > Anna
- >
- > P.S.
- > Coincidentally, another acquaintance of mine has just informed me that he
- > has found a way to boot XP from a USBEHD. While I've heard that story so
- > many times before, I've *never* witnessed a single successful effort in
- > this area. But this fellow is quite knowledgeable and he promised to
- > provide me with details of his accomplishment within the next few days.
- > Should it materialize, I'll post the info.
- >

- *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ *Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk*
◇ *From: Anna*

- *References:*

- ◆ *Install OS in external Hard Disk*
◇ *From: vasanthkumarvk*
- ◆ *Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk*
◇ *From: Carey Frisch [MVP]*
- ◆ *Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk*
◇ *From: R. McCarty*
- ◆ *Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk*
◇ *From: Anna*

- Prev by Date: *Re: Resource Differences between Pro and Home?*
- Next by Date: *Re: Cannot boot after resizing with Partition Magic 8.05*
- Previous by thread: *Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk*
- Next by thread: *Re: Install OS in external Hard Disk*
- Index(es):
 - ◆ *Date*
 - ◆ *Thread*