

Re: Partition limiting virus, or bad HD?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2006-05/msg11182.html>

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 - *Date:* 31 May 2006 06:17:57 -0700
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Have a look at the drive with WinHex –

<http://www.x-ways.net/winhex/>

Eric,

PC Buyer Beware!

<http://www.pcbuyerbeware.co.uk/>

McTrack wrote:

I am working on a PC that had been munged by multiple virii. I'm trying to do a fresh install of XP, but running into a snag at the partitioning stage. It has a 300 gig Western Digital HD on it, but whenever I create a partition larger than 8 gig, the resulting installation won't boot (it had larger partitions before the virii) – although XP doesn't complain at all during the partition creation/format/install process.

I have tried several aftermarket partition managing tools but I get the same result – nothing above 8 gigs produces a good install. I DLed WD's Data Lifeguard, but whenever I boot from the floppy it creates, it says there is some sort of problem with the archive that needs pkzipfix (but then it seems to be using Caldera's DR DOS and I've had poor luck with that in the past).

Is it even possible that a virus could have done this, or I am looking at a dead HD that coincidentally failed at the same time as being hit by a virus? Or maybe something else entirely?

In 20+ years of building/fixing PCs, I've never seen anything quite like this.