

How to configure a 2nd SCSI SATA drive?

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Specs: Win XP Pro SP2, Pentium 4 3 GHz, 445 MB RAM

Following drive specs obtained via 'Computer Management' and 'Device Manager':

Disk 0: ST316081 5AS SCSI Disk Device / 75 GB
Disk 1: ST380811 0AS SCSI Disk device / 150 GB (just added & initialized;
not yet configured, partitioned, formatted, etc.)

These drives are SATA drives. I know v little about SCSI and SATA drives
except
for what I've just read on the Net. SEAGATE Website says no jumpers need be
set
and that all drives are considered as Masters. I do not know the implications
of having 2 Master drives. The following is from SEAGATE Website:

Serial ATA drives are designed for easy installation with no jumpers,
terminators, or other settings. It is not necessary to set any jumpers on
this drive for proper
operation. The jumper block adjacent to the signal connector is only needed
in some cases when connecting your SATA II drive to an older SATA I
controller.

Each drive on the serial ATA interface connects in a point-to-point
configuration with the serial ATA host adapter. There is no master/slave
relationship because each drive is considered a master in a point-to-point
relationships. If two drives are attached on one serial ATA host adapter, the
host operating system views the two devices as if they were both masters on
two separate ports. This means both drives behave as if they are Device 0
(master) devices. Each drive has its own cable.

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Your serial ATA host adapter may provide master/slave emulation options. See your host adapter documentation for details.

There are 4 SATA connectors on the mobo – 2 red (1 & 2); 2 black (3 & 4) – and I don't have a clue as to the difference between the red and the black ones – unless maybe the black ones are for 'Slave drives'.

I would like to make the new 2nd drive a Slave (if possible and if advisable) but have no idea how to go about it. Wouldn't have a clue about any "host adapter documentation"; seems like a bit of overkill, just to make a drive a slave drive. Thought Windows might give the option. With IDE it's a matter of simple drive jumper relocation.

In Disk Management I got confronted w/ a riske "Dynamic Volume" wizard. "The Elder Geek" provides some articles on this which made my hair stand on end and my skin crawl. For sure I don't want to convert the Disk to Dynamic Volume or RAID, etc. No way!

The article also gives a warning about not being able to convert back; yet Windows Help (via 'Computer Management') says it's a simple matter and gives the steps.

Who's right?

Fortunately and somehow I got the wizard to finally give me the 'basic disk' option.

1. All I want to do is to make this 2nd drive a simple FAT32 backup drive with a total of 4 partitions – and hopefully Windows XP will give me the FAT32 option somewhere along the line. I don't want NTFS for several reasons.
2. If I cannot get the 'Slave drive' option, is it OK to just go ahead and assume it'll turn into a 2nd Master? What are the consequences of this?
3. How do I partition this thing? Should I / do I need to first create a primary partition and then an extended partition, which I then partition into 3 logical drives? or how?
4. Do I need to / can I (if I want to) install an OS (like Win XP Pro) on the primary partition? Is there any advantage to this? Would there be a conflict created between the existing OS on Disk 0 and the new one on Disk 1 or would the system boot normally via the OS on the C: drive?

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I did not see any answers to any of the above specific questions in the Windows Help on the issue in Computer Management.

Could someone please supply me with some understandable answers to the above?

Thank you very much,

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Nak

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