

Re: How do I power save a HDD?

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2008-05/msg02895.html>

- *From:* "Onsokumar" <onsok-sama@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 9 May 2008 14:15:57 +0800
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"Bill in Co." <not_really_here@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:eWLChkXsIHA.4392@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Frank Martin wrote:

"Anna" <myname@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:O%236WyDRsIHA.2068@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Frank Martin wrote:

I have just installed another
HDD just
for
ghost backups.

I do not want this disk to
spin all the
time,
so how can I power it down
when not in
use,
yet leave the main (other)
HDD going?

Please help, Frank

"Bill in Co."
<not_really_here@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in
message
news:%23KoklUOsIHA.1872@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

One solution is to pull it out and put it
into an external USB hard drive enclosure,

Re: How do I power save a HDD?

and power that on ONLY when you need to make a backup. Works well for me (in conjunction with Acronis True Image).

Frank:

Another option to consider...

Assuming this is a desktop PC and you have an available (vacant) 5 1/4" bay in your computer case...

Why not install a removable HDD in that bay? That way you can easily disconnect that HDD from the system after you've finished backing up your system to that drive. Just a simple turn of the switch to the OFF position would do it. Installation of a removable HDD is no more difficult than installing an optical drive.

Another advantage to this type of device is that the system would treat the removable HDD as an *internal* HDD rather than a USB device so you would gain considerable data transfer speed.

Anna

Thanks, but I wonder if I could just remove the power plug (easily accessible) from the back of the HDD yet leave the other wires connected. The HDD is a Seagate ST3500630A 3AAF SATA 500Gb?

Regards, Frank

I wouldn't recommend it. If you're thinking along those lines, you might reconsider the external HD enclosure idea (with its own built-in power switch). That would be a lot safer and better. Or consider what Anna said about the removable rack drives.

What's wrong with the power saving settings under windows?

My secondary disks stop spinning using this method.

Re: How do I power save a HDD?

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It's probably a good idea to turn off system restore and fast find or the windows file indexer. Any program that accesses the other disks will cause it to remain active.

By unplugging and reconnecting drives directly from the mobo will potentially cause other problems.

If you want to physically turn the drive on and off get an external enclosure.

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