

# Re: Exterior Hard Drive Crash

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2008-09/msg00788.html>

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- *From:* Ed Mc <[namvtn@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:namvtn@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 07 Sep 2008 07:35:22 -0700
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bobbymike wrote:

"Ed Mc" <[namvtn@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:namvtn@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:b\\_OdnTDbkr6yT17VnZ2dnUVZ\\_qTinZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:b_OdnTDbkr6yT17VnZ2dnUVZ_qTinZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

DL wrote:

A hd drive can be DOA or fail at anytime, theres nothing you can do to prevent failure, other than not dropping one. There are Companies that will recover data, if it is recoverable – no recovery no fee. About the only thing a user can do is to keep multiple backups on differeing media & in differing locations

"bobbymike" <[ejnbln@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:ejnbln@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:u89W\\$WKEJHA.3476@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:u89W$WKEJHA.3476@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

My Sony Windows XP Media Edition crashed a few months ago .. luckily I had all my important documents, photos, etc backed up on a WD exterior hard drive. In August I got a new Dell Inspiron 530 Desktop running Windows XP Professional. Unfortunately I did not copy all the important info from the exterior hard drive to this new Dell. Last week, I went to open up the exterior hard drive and this message came on screen – 'The Disk in Drive F is not formatted. Do you want to format it now'– Long story short, took the exterior hard drive to my trusted computer guy who ran it all weekend trying to recover the data . He had no luck – could not recover anything. Short of spending \$\$\$\$\$\$ does anyone have any ideas about what I could possibly do next – or is this a dead issue? And would anyone have a possible reason as to why this exterior hard drive crashed in the first place.

Re: Exterior Hard Drive Crash

Thanks for any and all input.

Don't know if this will help, but, I had a USB drive suddenly go bonkers.... one day I plugged it in and it wouldn't show up. I checked with Disk Management and it was there, but, listed as 'hidden'. Don't have a clue how or why it became 'hidden'. I 'unhid' the disk and BINGO, all my files were back. Just an experience I had..... you never know with computers.....

—  
Semper Fi

Good Morning Marine Corps – SemperFi – I don't currently have the drive – it's at the computer repair shop = when I get it  
Back I will check it out per your instructions – When you say you Unhid the disk ... What exactly does this mean? Thanks Much

I have a program called Partition Magic 8.0 which has an option for 'unhiding' hidden partitions. It's basically a hard disk management program. I haven't looked too closely at winXP's disk management feature, so I don't know if the procedure can be done from there. Maybe someone else....? In the meantime, a "Scroogle" search (I don't use Google) for 'free partition manager program' returned numerous results. Good luck, bro.

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Semper Fi

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