

Re: running out of space.....I "guess"?

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.general/2009-06/msg05598.html>

- *From:* "Mike Hall – MVP" <mikehall@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 29 Jun 2009 08:58:37 -0400
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"Gerry" <gerry@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:%23JnliDJ%23JHA.4168@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Mike

You're mistaken on several counts.

XP does not need 20–25gb. You are confusing the requirements of XP plus pagefile plus programmes plus default folders like My Documents etc with the requirements of the operating system. As long as there is free disk space elsewhere you can run a problem free computer with much less than 20 gb. All that is needed is organisation. On this computer the used space on C, including the pagefile, is 8.3 gb. It could be a lot less.

Using a computer on a daily basis makes it pointless retaining restore points for more than 14 days. I regularly use Disk Cleanup to remove all but the latest restore point. Restore points are most useful undoing a change that has gone wrong. You do that within a day or two.

How does limiting space allocated to storing unnecessary historic restore points amount to crippling System Restore? Your statement is simply untrue! I was going to say gross exaggeration but that understates your position.

Disk space utilisation and system restore are topics I have studied in some depth over 10 years.

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Gerry

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FCA

Stourport, England

Enquire, plan and execute

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Mike Hall – MVP wrote:

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"Gerry" <gerry@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:%23PxAMNE%23JHA.4692@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

You can create more free space in C by carrying any of the measures suggested below.

The default allocation to System Restore is 12% on your C partition which is over generous. I would reduce it to 700 mb. Right click your My Computer icon on the Desktop and select System Restore. Place the cursor on your C drive select Settings but this time find the slider and drag it to the left until it reads 700 mb and exit. When you get to the Settings screen click on Apply and OK and exit.

A default setting which could be wasteful is that for temporary internet files, especially if you do not store offline copies on disk. The default allocation is 3% of drive. Depending on your attitude to offline copies you could reduce this to 1% or 2%. In Internet Explorer select Tools, Internet Options, General, Temporary Internet Files, Settings to make the change. At the same time look at the number of days history is held.

The default allocation for the Recycle Bin is 10 % of drive. Change to 5%, which should be sufficient. In Windows Explorer place the cursor on your Recycle Bin, right click and select Properties, Global and move the slider from 10% to 5%. However, try to avoid letting it get too full as if it is full and you delete a file by mistake it will bypass the Recycle Bin and be gone for ever.

If your drive is formatted as NTFS another potential gain arises with your operating system on your C drive. In the Windows Directory of your C partition you will have some Uninstall folders in your Windows folder typically: \$NtServicePackUninstall\$ and \$NtUninstallKB282010\$

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etc. These files may be compressed or not compressed. If compressed the text of the folder name appears in blue characters. If not compressed you can compress them. Right click on each folder and select Properties, General, Advanced and check the box before Compress contents to save Disk Space. On the General Tab you can see the amount gained by deducting the size on disk from the size. Folder compression is only an option on a NTFS formatted drive / partition.

Select Start, All Programs, Accessories, System Tools, System Information, Tools, Dr Watson and verify that the box before "Append to existing log" is NOT checked. This means the next time the log is written it will overwrite rather than add to the existing file.

You can generate more space in the system partition by relocation of folders.

For Temporary Internet Files select Start, Control Panel, Internet Options, Temporary Internet Files. Settings, Move Folder.

To move the Outlook Express Store Folder select in Outlook Express Tools, Options, Maintenance, Store Folder, Change.
<http://www.tomsterdam.com/insideoe/files/store.htm>

How to Change the Default Location of the My Documents Folder:
<http://support.microsoft.com/?id=310147>

You may also need to change Default File locations in the Microsoft Office programmes you choose to move the My Documents folder. For Word go to Tools, Options, File Locations, highlight Documents, click on Modify and change file path. For Excel go to Tools, Options, General and change default file path.

My Documents is one of a number of system created Special Folders including My Pictures and My Music. These can more easily

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be
relocated using TweakUi. Download TweakUI, one of the
MS powertoys,
from here:
<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/pro/downloads/powertoys.asp>
In TweakUi select My Computer, Special Folders. You can
scroll down
to see the full list of Special Folders to the left of the Change
Location button.

You can move programmes but to do this you have to
uninstall and
reinstall.

Select Start, All Programs, accessories, System Tools, Disk
CleanUp,
More Options, System Restore and remove all but the latest
System
Restore point. Run Disk Defragmenter

Hope this helps.

Gerry
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FCA  
Stourport, England  
Enquire, plan and execute  
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.riogrande wrote:

I have a 120 GB drive with two partitions; C
is 14 GB and has 155 mb
left according to disk management. D is the
rest of the Hard drive
and has 80 GB left free. Sony Vaio media
computer, running XP Home
SP3 on a P4 at 2.66mhz (prob TMI).
Anyway, a while back I moved all photos,
etc to the D drive to save
space on C drive. But, things keep
"growing" (sorta like having
rabbits I guess) and now the C drive is very
full and methinks I
should run defrag and all that, but it won't

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run due to insufficient
space.

I have gone through windows explorer to see
if there are any other
files to move, but don't find any data files I
haven't already
moved. I run Quicken, and assume that data
is on the C drive and it
may be big, but no other stuff jumps out.
Simple HP printer files,
M/S updates and patches seem pretty big,
but once installed can
they be blown away? and that is about it.
So, I "guess" I need to enlarge the C drive?
If so, what is the
recommended way?

In reading these posts I see that there are a
few opinions, but I'm
assuming I need to get partition magic or
backup both drives (image
copy? on a new HD (pretty cheap)) and
reinstall from the Sony disks
and when doing so...make the C drive 20 or
25 GB.

What say ye experts?

Thanks for the advice.....novice techie

Gerry

XP needs 20–25gb.. crippling the ability to store restore points is
not a particularly good idea..

Gerry

The OP has ONE drive so the pagefile stays where it is..

There is little point in installing programs on a second drive because they will need to be reinstalled in the
event of a major crash anyway..

Reducing the capacity of XP to create minidumps or be able to defrag is ridiculous when there is 80gb free on
the second partition.

With that amount of space doing nothing, why make it difficult for XP or the user?

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Keep it simple is the best way for the majority of users..

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Mike Hall – MVP Windows Experience

<http://msmvps.com/blogs/mikehall/>

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