

Re: new 160GB hard drive, but limited to 137GB!!!

Source:

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From: andy (andy_at_discussions.microsoft.com)

Date: 11/06/04

Date: Sat, 6 Nov 2004 05:33:01 -0800

Thanks for all your helps. I am not sure if my BIOS supports large-capacity disks, can anyone tell me how to check my BIOS?

"Art" wrote:

> "andy" <andy@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message
> news:94FDEC7D-933A-4A65-BFA8-4EDE161C39A5@microsoft.com...
> >I bought and installed a Maxtor 160GB ATA hard drive into my computer. I
> >used
> >the install disk (Max Blast3, which came along w/ the drive) to install
> >the
> >HD. During the installation, a message came out and said that my pc
> >doesn't
> >support Hard Drive that's larger than 137GB. I went through the
> >installation
> >guide and found out there is two solutions. One is Ultra
> >ATA/133-compatible
> >PCI card, the other solution is to install Microsoft SP1. I had it
> >installed
> >and how come it's not working? after the installation, the hard drive is
> >limited to 137MB, even worse, it dropped to 127GB after i formatted it.
> >It's
> >a totally 33 GB lost!!! I am sure my pc is capable for 160GB HD, can
> >anyone
> >help me?
>
> And then Andy added in a subsequent posting...
> can u tell me how to check if i have SP1 installed?
>
> Andy:
> 1. Assuming your mainboard's BIOS supports large-capacity disks, i.e.,
> drives greater than 137 GB, the Windows XP operating system (that does *not*
> include SP1/SP2) will recognize a maximum capacity of 137 GB. Should the
> disk have a greater capacity, the remaining disk space will NOT be
> recognized by the XP operating system. If, on the other hand, the XP
> installation disk contained SP1 or SP2 at the time of the OS installation,
> then the full capacity of the disk would be recognized. Keep in mind that in

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- > any event, your mainboard's BIOS **must** support large-capacity disks. If it
- > does not, then installing SP1 or SP2 will **not**, in and of itself, provide
- > this support .
- >
- > 2. So if you installed the XP OS that did not include SP1/SP2, the system
- > would recognize only up to 137 GB. When SP1/SP2 is subsequently installed,
- > the full capacity of that 160 GB disk will be recognized (again assuming
- > that your BIOS supports large-capacity disks) -- the 137 GB that was
- > partitioned/formatted when XP was originally installed, and the remaining
- > (roughly) 21 GB which will be shown as "unallocated space" -- space that you
- > can subsequently partition/format using XP's Disk Management utility (Start
- > | right-click My Computer | Manage | Disk Management). Note that this will
- > be a second partition on the disk. The only way to create a single 160 GB at
- > this point, should that be your desire, would be through a third-party
- > program such as Partition Magic.
- >
- > Incidentally, note that your 160 GB drive will be reported by the OS to have
- > a total capacity of about 149 GB. The discrepancy is due to the different
- > sizing methods used by hard drive manufacturers and the system to report
- > disk capacity.
- >
- > A final note -- should the motherboard's BIOS not support large-capacity
- > disks, the most practical way of getting around this barrier is to install a
- > controller card that supports large-capacity disks, which every controller
- > card manufactured today does.
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- > Art
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