

Re: Partition Planning

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- *From:* "Richard In Va." <Reply-none@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 28 Jun 2006 07:43:20 -0400
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Fdisk correction:

It's been awhile since I've used fdisk. But after thinking about it following my above post, I don't think fdisk formats, it just prepares the partitions for you. Therefore it likely doesn't care if you format FAT32 or NTFS.

But fdisk will have limitations as to the partition type (and size) you choose. It only offers a "Primary" and "Extended (DOS)" partition. And then of course you can set a Primary as "Active" to be the Boot partition.

A "Primary" partition created by fdisk will likely translate to a "Basic" partition when introduced to the XP OS.

Nevertheless, as for your fdisk question, I'd stick with the XP "Disk Manager" utility. Much easier on the eyes.

Another note, just for the fun of it... If you ever install a second hard drive, and you create a "Basic/Primary" partition, The new partition will steel the next drive letter following your OS partition (C:\), then bump all your other drives regardless of which HD their on down the alphabet.

On my system, my #2,#3 and #4 hard drives only have one (1) each "Extended Partition" per physical hard drive. Then I fill the extended partition with logical drives, however many I want. (Helps me keep my drive letters in a row).

Don't know of any work around, maybe someone can add additional input here. Not sure, maybe you can go back to Disk Manager and steel the drive letter back. (?).

Back when I went thru all this (several years ago), I called Seagate Tech Support and they indicated that drive performance would not be effected by having one (1) "Extended Partition" filled with "Logical Drives".

Best regards,

Richard In Va.

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Re: Partition Planning

"Richard In Va." <Reply–none@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:%23pSO1UemGHA.4100@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello Contrapositive,

Your welcome, just keep in mind that I'm sharing my thoughts and ideas based on only my experiences. So use what your comfortable with and discard the rest.

With regard to the 8MB (or is that 8GB) of "unpartitioned" or "unallocated" space. This might be corrected by selecting "use all available space" when creating the last partition, as apposed to entering the size you want.

If your already well on your way, it might be worth the trouble over 8GB. But if it's 8MB, I believe I'd let it go.

Also...

If the last partition is an "extended partition" containing "logical drives", then the last "logical drive" in the partition you'll want to use "all available space". It may be worded alittle differently tho.

And yea... the D:\ drive is likely assigned to a removable (CD/DVD) drive.

In the past, when installing a OS onto a new HD. I will boot to the OS install disc, allow it to create the first partition to a size of my liking and install the OS there. Then, with the OS up and running and all is well, I'll open the XP "Disk Management" utility and use it to bump the drive letter for the CD/DVD drive to something like T:\ or whatever. Just to get it away from my hard drives. Reboot... just for the fun of it, reopen "Disk Management" and create the other partitions for the "unallocated" space that remains after C:\. The XP utility is pretty easy on the eyes and you can see all your drives to better know what's going on.

Start>Programs>Administrative Tools>Computer Management... Then look for "Disk Management".
(Maybe stick with NTFS and the default cluster size)

I don't think fdisk will work with the NTFS file system (?). And fdisk has difficulty with large hard drives, unless you've downloaded the fdisk "patch" or whatever it was to help with large drive capacities. I still have fdisk too, but I leave it on a floppy buried away somewhere.

So, stick with the XP utility, it's really quite nice. Maximize the window and drag the screen divider up so you can see ALL the drives in the lower pane. I think it's right–click on the drive to work on it or just reassign drive letters.

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If your going to rework the last partition to salvage the 8MB (8GB ?), you could consider "Fast Format" to save some time. Most folks probably use the fast (quick) format anyway....

When done, you can bump the CD drive letter back up in line behind the hard drives. You can also label your drive here too!

Good luck!

Richard In Va.

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"contrapositive" <contrapositive@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:YZ6dnTNCI_w64D3ZnZ2dnUVZ_rmdnZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

"Richard In Va." <Reply-none@xxxxxxx> wrote in message news:eHBhn8SmGHA.5076@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello Contrapositive,

Looks like you've gotten some good advice here already.

This is all great advice. Thanks so much To answer some other questions, I have 2GB of RAM, and an AMD Athlon 64 3000+.

Anyway, now that I'm ready to create my partitions, I notice that XP skips over the D designation for drive lettering -- i.e. it goes from C to E. Also, as I add partitions, a single partition of 8MB of "unpartitioned space" shows up at the end.

Is this all because I'm using the XP disk to create partitions? Should I use fdisk instead?