

Re: setting up a new hard drive as drive D

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- *From:* "Anna" <[myname@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:myname@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 26 Jun 2006 10:43:21 -0400
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"Walter" <[Walter@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Walter@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:87145E99-CE92-4D32-8F8E-A28141F3DBBB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:87145E99-CE92-4D32-8F8E-A28141F3DBBB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hi,  
I have a pc which has Windows XP Home (OEM) which has been updated to SP2 plus all the other updates. This has Windows setup plus the applications on drive C. I want to add a second hard disk as IDE drive D but I cannot see any were that will enable me to fdisk prior to formating the new drive. Can any one advise me where to find the commands to do this?  
Thank you,  
Walter

"namniar" <[this@that](mailto:this@that)> wrote in message  
[news:%23758C0HOFHA.1268@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%23758C0HOFHA.1268@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Rt click My Computer, Manage then select Storage, Disk Management branch.

"Anna" wrote:

Walter:  
You ordinarily do not use the DOS FDISK/FORMAT commands to partition

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&  
format a hard disk in the XP environment. Rather, as namniar has indicated,  
you use XP's Disk Management utility to do so.

Here are the detailed steps...

1. You will partition & format your second HD using XP's Disk Management utility. Access it by right-clicking My Computer > Manage > Computer Management > Disk Management, or, Start > Run > enter diskmgmt.msc & click OK.
2. If the disk you're adding is a "virgin" drive, i.e., unpartitioned/unformatted, XP will detect the new disk and automatically open the "Initialize and Convert Disk Wizard". Follow the prompts to initialize the disk. (Do *\*not\** select the option to convert your hard drive to a "dynamic disk", nor the "convert" option).
3. If Disk Management does not detect the new disk, click "Rescan Disks". You might need to restart your computer although this is usually unnecessary.
4. Disk Management will show the capacity of the new drive as "Unallocated" space. So in order to use the new drive you will have to partition and format it.
5. Create a partition by right-clicking on the pane that displays the new drive (diagonal lines will appear in the pane), and select "New Partition".  
The "New Partition Wizard" dialog box will open. Click Next.
6. Select the option "Primary partition" (the default) as the "Partition Type". Click Next.
7. The "Specify Partition Size" dialog box will indicate the maximum disk capacity in MB. If you want to create multiple partitions, enter whatever partition size (in MB) that you want for the first partition and click Next.
8. In the next dialog box, assign a drive letter for this disk and click Next.
9. The "Format Partition" dialog box will open. Review it carefully and accept the defaults or make any changes. If you're reasonably certain your hard disk is sound, you can tick the "Perform a quick format" checkbox. Click Next
10. Confirm the settings in the "Completing the New Partition Wizard"

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dialog  
box and click Finish.

11. The "Computer Management" window will open indicating the disk is being formatted (progress shown as % formatted).

12. Your hard disk has been initialized, partitioned, and formatted. If you're creating multiple partitions on that disk, you'll have remaining "Unallocated" disk space that you can partition & format, so repeat the process starting from step 5. above.

Anna

"FrankL123" <FrankL123@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
news:6906571F-C458-41C1-9CBB-4F380A932841@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thanks Anna – seems quite straightforward (just what I want to do) except...  
on your point 5 " Create a partition by right-clicking on the pane that displays the new drive (diagonal lines will appear in the pane), and select "New Partition".  
The "New Partition Wizard" dialog box will open. Click Next." ....  
the "New Partition" is grayed out, and not accessible!!

Frank:

There can be a variety of reasons for this...

1. The HD may be defective. Unless you're absolutely certain the drive is non-defective it would be wise to download the diagnostic utility from the website of the manufacturer of your HD and check it out. The fact that the drive is brand-new is no guarantee that it's non-defective. Similarly, it's possible for a defective HD to be listed in My Computer and Device Manager.
2. Assuming the drive is non-defective – ensure that the drive has been properly configured (jumpered) and securely connected. Re:check the IDE ribbon cable (I'm assuming this is a PATA HD) to ensure that it's properly seated on the HD and the motherboard's IDE connector as well as the power plug connection.
3. The IDE (or SATA) data cable may be defective.
4. Assuming all seems secure and properly configured – shut down the machine & disconnect the secondary HD and boot only with your system drive connected. Assuming the boot goes without incident, shut down the machine and re:connect your secondary HD. Again, make absolutely certain you've properly jumpered/connected that drive. Access DM again and determine if the problem has been corrected.
5. If still no-go, move the problem HD to another IDE (or SATA) connector.

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For example, if you have it currently connected as Primary Slave, connect it as a Secondary Master or Slave, whatever is available. Don't forget to change jumper positions if necessary.

We have come across some rare instances where a non-defective, properly configured & connected HD for unexplained reasons could not be formatted within the XP operating system. (At least we couldn't account for the existence of the problem). In virtually every case that I recall (and understand this was a rare event to begin with) the problem occurred when we were attempting to install the XP OS on a "virgin" HD. I'm hard-pressed to recall (in my own experience) a similar incident involving the same problem occurring when trying to partition/format a non-defective & properly configured secondary HD using the Disk Management utility, but I have seen reports of this.

In the case of the problem we encountered involving the installation of the XP OS on a new HD, we found that in nearly every case if we re:installed the OS (sometimes up to three times), it would "catch" and we encountered no further problems. In the very few instances where even that didn't work, we finally had to resort partitioning/formatting the drive using the FDISK & FORMAT commands (from a DOS boot disk, e.g., Win9x/Me Startup floppy disk).

Hopefully, you won't have to do this.

Anna

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