

Re: connecting old hard drive to new computer

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.hardware/2007-01/msg01310.html>

- *From:* gwenbfine <gwenbfine@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 27 Jan 2007 07:02:00 -0800
-

Anna,

Yes, the data is very important to me. I had family tree information that would be hard to duplicate. Plus I had over 700 music files. And a lot of family photos.

Now to answer your questions if I can

1. Yes, it was a gateway pc w/only 1 hard drive installed. I never added anything else (and to the post from bill, yes it had goback on it)
2. Yes, that's the hard drive I hooked up to my new laptop.
3. Yes, the actual size is 10.2 GB (I bought the computer in 99)
4. There were no partitions on that hard drive. I didn't even know what a partition was until this problem. I was the only user except for occasionally my daughter when she came home from college.
5. Yes, everything was working fine. Then one day I tried to turn the pc on and got nothing, no power at all.
6. when I first installed it, disk management showed two partitions. One, Your drive, showed a blue bar across the top. The "new volume" showed a black bar across the top. And I've tried a number of things since then, so I can't remember the exact sequence of events.
7. The partition that says your drive, I can't access it. the only action it gives me the option of taking is "delete partition". How do I know if there are any files??

I'd be willing to take it somewhere if it wouldn't cost an arm & a leg for them to check it out. I do have an acquaintance at work that suggested the external enclosure to begin with. But any advice that I could try first that wouldn't hurt anything.. . . .

Thanks for your time!

"Anna" wrote:

"gwenbfine" wrote:

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9Hi

I am not very computer savvy so I need some direction. About 8 months

ago

my PC lost it's power supply. I recently bought a new laptop. I

removed the

hard drive from the PC and installed it in a USB 2.0 enclosure. I

hooked it

up to my lap top and the new computer is reading the old drive now.

BUT, I

don't know how to access my files. When I first installed it, it

renamed a

partition as Drive E. Drive E shows nothing in it. The purpose of

doing

this was to recover the files from my old PC.

The old hard drive shows

up in

disk management as:

disk 1 your drive 9.54 GB FAT32 Healthy (active) and then another

partition

that says: new volume E 16 MB FAT

(Healthy). I have been careful not

to

answer yes to any prompts that would erase

any data. I would

appreciate any

instruction as to how to access my files from

the old PC. Thanks

"gwenbfine" <gwenbfine@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:EEFE69AE-35AF-45DF-A435-53FE8EB3F3F7@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thank you. Ok, I r clicked on it, selected make active. But the part that

says New volume drive e is showing as active and the part that says your drive says unknown partition. I'm beginning to think I might need to take

it

to someone else, lol. I like to think I'm an intelligent person, but I'm

not

feeling it right now :)

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gwenbfine:

It's entirely possible that for one reason or another the data on that problem HDD has been lost, so if that data is supremely important to you it may be necessary to seek some professional recovery help or at least take it to some knowledgeable acquaintance of yours.

But let's first try a few things and then go on from there, ok?

1. At the time your desktop PC (I'm assuming it was a desktop machine) lost its power supply, there was only a single hard drive installed in that machine, right? Was that desktop an OEM machine – from Dell, or HP/Compaq, or Gateway, or some such?
2. And that hard drive is the one that you removed from that computer and installed in your USB external enclosure, right?
3. You've mentioned that Disk Management in your new laptop reports the total disk capacity of that (now) external HDD – the same one you removed from your previous PC – as just under 10 GB. Was that *actually* the size of that hard drive, or have you "lost" some disk space from that drive since the transfer?
4. And when that hard drive was installed in your former PC, as far as you knew it had only a single partition? Neither you nor anyone else to your knowledge ever multi-partitioned it, right?
5. Was that hard drive functioning OK before the computer's power supply became defective? It booted up just fine and functioned without any problems? The only problem was that PC was a defective power supply right?
6. After you installed that hard drive in your USB external enclosure and connected it to your new laptop and booted up, what exactly happened? You say Disk Management immediately indicated there were two partitions on that drive, one of 9.54 GB and a tiny one of 16 MB.
6. Can you account at all for those two partitions? They bear no resemblance to what was in that hard drive when it was in your desktop PC? And again, was the total disk capacity of that hard drive when it was installed in your former PC about 10 GB?
7. And both partitions now show empty. No files or folders in either partition?

As I say, we can go on from here if you want.

Anna

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