

Re: NOT displaying/showing drive letters of USB/removable media partitions in WinExplorer ?

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*Source:*

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help\\_and\\_support/2006-04/msg02811.htm](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-04/msg02811.htm)

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- *From:* Uwe Sieber <[mail@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mail@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 21 Apr 2006 09:12:49 +0200
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Thommy Kanther wrote:

On a new computer system with pre-installed WinXP I can see a lot of drive letters in Windows Explorer for all USB and removable drives. Since this computer has 4 USB drives and 1 for a Memory Stick there are always 5 drive letters

with no contents (No external USB Stick or Memory card is currently plugged in).

I don't want to see all these drive letters. Is there a way to let them only appear when a card/stick is plugged in ?

No. But you can remove the letters and access the slots thru folders on an NTFS formatted drive.

Create a base folder for the card reader like  
C:\CardReader

Then create there on folder for each slot of the reader.

C:\CardReader\CompactFlash  
C:\CardReader\SD\_MMC  
C:\CardReader\MemStick  
C:\CardReader\SmartMedia

The change the Letters to these folders:

Right-click 'My Computer' -> 'Manage', select 'Disk Management', right-click on the drive -> 'Change Drive Letter and Paths...', click 'Change'...

But have to know which slot has which letter to change them to the folder with the right name...

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There is a faster way. I've written a small commandline tool that simplifies the process described above.

<http://www.uwe-sieber.de/files/mscr2folder.zip>

(Multi Slot Card Reader to folder)

Create the folder C:\CardReader, then open a command prompt, change to folder where you have unzipped the MSCR2Folder.EXE too and enter  
MSCR2Folder E: C:\CardReader

E: is one of the letters currently assigned to the multislot card reader – no matter which one.

It creates then one sub folder for each slot using their device names. Better readers have 'talking' names like 'USB2.0 CF\_MD', 'USB2.0 SD\_MMC' and so on. Slots of junk readers have all the same, non talking name like 'USB USB', 'Generic USB', 'General Flash Disk'. MSCR2Folder adds numbers then.

Greetings from Germany

Uwe