

Re: hard drive problem

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-08/msg00538.htm

- *From:* "Brad" <rogersb1234@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 27 Jul 2006 23:12:54 GMT
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Thanks Ken

Im always happy to learn the best known methods and always welcome correction.

Formatting vs writing all zeros?

I thought, I assume, Im guessing formatting only writes to some block on the disk, something thats equal to the start of a sector or something saying the data is "erased"? But formatting doesnt, Im guessing, actually go to each and every last bit to write something? does it?

If format actually changed every bit on the disk, wouldnt it take much longer to complete?

so what Im worried about, total guess and speculation on my part, is that small enough sized code snippets could be scattered on a disk, written all over the place so even with losing the partition and format, that physical data would remain?

it wouldnt be mapped on any file system but wouldnt it be at the same physical address the disk itself uses in the IDE interface?

so isnt it that only data fragments could be left on a disk thats been formatted?

and youre right, the questions should have had some test first, is it this? if so then format it

I thought Microsoft sought to turn messenger service off as part of some security fix thing?

tia

"Ken Blake, MVP" <kblake@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:OVxFiwasGHA.4752@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Brad wrote:

Re: hard drive problem

So the sequence was:

1. installed new disk drive
2. months later got a virus
3. was wiped? reformatted? wiping means exactly what? running the write all 0's to all locations utility? takes many hours?
4. Windows was re installed?
4a which anti virus, anti spyware were installed BEFORE ever going online?
5. message from messenger service saying get some program? did you go to their website and download something? which website/product name? maybe this was a trick to upload virus malware to your computer?
6. registry fix? what does this mean?
7. now when you reboot, the operating system is not found? what exact message appears?
8. install old disk, the new disk as slave appears fine

thats good, what probably happened is your windows install was zapped, most newer computers will look for a bootable resource and boot it up, since you didnt say you changed bios settings sounds like windows itself got corrupted.

steps now are save anything on that new disk, send them to the old disk that runs windows

do a full wipe, all zeros,

Although it doesn't hurt to do " full wipe, all zeros," it's entirely unnecessary and a waste of time. For all practical purposes, just formatting will accomplish the same thing.

And I wouldn't be so quick to reformat and reinstall. It isn't at all clear what his problem is, and there may well be a less draconian solution. You ask good questions in 5, 6, and 7, above. Making recommendations as to how to proceed before seeing the answers to those questions is premature.

format, install windows, install
antivirus, etc
set your system not to allow messenger service,

If he was getting Messenger Service popups, it was because he was running without a firewall. There's no reason to turn off Messenger Service, and

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in fact it has provided the warning that he was running without firewall protection.

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Ken Blake – Microsoft MVP Windows: Shell/User
Please reply to the newsgroup

it helps to load as
much as possible from cd rom before connecting online, set internet
explorer to high security

"jenn" <jenn@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:382372EB-447F-497E-9733-A0348B46ED29@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

about 6 months ago i installed a new hard drive 160g
maxtor,it
worked fine then it was attacked by a virus of some
description and
it was wiped and reformatted,in doing so it developed a pop
up from
messenger service advising
me to get a regedit/program.these pop ups were happening
every
minute or so.i
did a registry fix however it is not recognised on reboot.the
strange
thing
is it can be recognised as a slave when replaced with my old
hard
drive. any help would be appreciated
thank you