

Re: WinXp & Game~Partitions & best for WinXP?

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-09/msg02834.htm

- *From:* John John <audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 18 Sep 2006 20:50:29 -0300
-

You don't really need a partition just for the pagefile. I think the idea of a separate partition just for the pagefile came more out of having fragmentation of dynamic pagefiles than anything else. A dynamic pagefile will resize to suit the needs of the operating system and if it shares storage space it can become fragmented, which can in turn negatively affect paging performance, so in the past many gave it its own partition to avoid this performance hit. If you set a static (fixed) size for the pagefile then it will not become fragmented and there is no real need to have a separate partition just for the pagefile, but it will hurt nothing to give it its own partition on an otherwise unused or less used disk. Your second disk which appears to be used very little would most likely be an excellent location for the pagefile. Regardless of how much RAM you have installed in the computer the maximum size of a pagefile on a disk is 4,095 MB so it would be pointless to create partitions any larger than that to accommodate it.

Even if you move the pagefile from the boot volume you should still maintain a small pagefile on the volume to accommodate for a memory.dmp or crash dump file in the event of a kernel mode STOP error or BSOD. Without a pagefile on the boot volume the debug information will not be captured and that might make troubleshooting STOP errors more difficult.

John

drybones wrote:

Thanks John,
Your reply helps a bunch with the page file. There is nothing else on the second SATA but Ghost so to add a partition in the beginning with my Partition Magic 8 would be no problem.

When I use Norton Speed disk I see a rather large sized Paging File so must assume that a 4 GB partition might be good.
Your thoughts on 4 GB would be acceptable.

drybones

"John John" <audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:Oimf6102GHA.5016@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

In this case it MIGHT be advantageous to have the pagefile on a partition on

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the second disk. Keep the Windows and applications/program files on the same partition on the first SATA disk.

As for the pagefile you could place the pagefile on the second disk but if the system does little to no paging it may make little difference. If you do a lot of file read writes on the second disk then it might not be optimal to place the pagefile there. There is no one size fits all with the placement of the pagefile. If the second hard disk is only used for archives and light read write operations it could make sense to put the pagefile there. Also note that it hurts nothing to have 2 pagefiles, by default Windows will favour and use the pagefile on the least busy disk.

John

drybones wrote:

SATA it is a new Dell XPS 600.
drybones

"John John" <audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:OL6QTfz2GHA.4756@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Are these drives SATA or IDE? Do they share the same drive controller in a master/slave relationship or are they masters on their own controllers? Leave all the software on the same partition as Windows. The pagefile, ...depends on the answers to the questions above.

John

drybones wrote:

I do have two hard disks.
Am using the second at the moment for Norton Ghost backups (160GB)

Are you saying to leave the primary hard drive at 160GB and load ALL game program folders into this

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Windows XP primary drive?
drybones

"John John"
<audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in message
news:OU4ctwy2GHA.2176@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

In your
house/home
design
would you
put the sink,
refrigerator
and
dishwasher
in separate
"rooms" to
make
cooking
meals more
efficient
and faster?
No, all it
would do is
make you
run around
alot more!
As for the
pagefile,
placing it
on a
different
partition on
the same
hard disk is
tantamount
to putting
the kitchen
stove in the
attic!

Leave ALL
Windows
and
program
working

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files on the
same
partition.
You might
want to cut
the hard
disk into
different
partitions to
store your
data or to
make
smaller
more
manageable
data storage
areas but as
a general
rule don't
place
programs or
Windows
files on
these
partitions.
Now, if you
have more
than one
hard disk
that's a
different
matter.

John

drybones
wrote:

John,
Please
be
more
specific.
Are
you
saying
that

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I
should
leave
everything
within
the
Primary
partition?
Games
and
so
forth?
If
so
'why'?
drybones

"John
John"
<audetweld@xxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote
in
message
news:%23yOSjfy2GHA.1292@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

None
of
what
you
suggest
or
propose
is
necessary
and
any
or
all
of
it
will
have
the
opposite
results,
it

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will
in
effect
degrade
performance.

John

drybones
wrote:

Am
in
a
quandary
as
to
placing
computer
games
within
the
same
partition
as
Windows
XP
with
SP2,
or
setting
up
a
separate
large
partition
with
a
few
special
folders
to
place
the
computer.games
individually
into.

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(?)
Also
there
is
the
option
of
setting
up
a
partition
for
each
individual
game
outside
the
primary
Windows
XP
partition.

Wanting
to
achieve
the
best
possible
environment
for
the
WinXP
working
condition
I
am
thinking
of
moving
the
Paging
File
to
the
first
partition
(D)
to
improve
Win

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XP's
ability
to
work
faster.

Lots
of
questions
and
I
do
appreciate
your
advice
with
each
possible
setup
of
my
're-install'
of
Win
XP
and
partitioning
of
the
160GB
hard
drive.

I
thank
you
for
reading
this
message
and
hope
for
positive
responses.
drybones

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