

Re: Defragmenting help needed

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http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2006-10/msg03854.htm

- *From:* Greg Wallace <GregWallace@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 25 Oct 2006 19:08:01 -0700
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Thanks for the info. I was able to use all of your tips. I set my System Restore space to 200 mb. I only use it when I'm about to make some registry changes, so it only needs to be able to hold that much data. I tested it out by creating a restore point and it still left one out there from before, so I think 200 mb will be plenty. I had a great many of those \$NtUninstal... files out there. Some were already compressed but many, many more were not, so compressed all of those. Regarding Temporary Internet Files, I have 2 id's, Administrator and a limited account that I do all of my work under. I do virtually no Web browsing under Administrator and yet it's temporary internet setting was huge (multi-gig). I cut that down to 5 MB. On my personal ID, I use more space for temp files than on Administrator, but it was still set too large. I cut it down to 60 MB. Thanks for these tips. Always nice to find places to save space.

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Greg Wallace

"Gerry Cornell" wrote:

Greg

Is your hard drive formatted as NTFS or FAT32? How large is the hard drive and how much free space? In Windows Explorer right click on the drive and select Properties to get this information.

Are you using Norton Protected Storage?

To increase you free space on your C select Start, All Programs, Accessories, System Tools, Disk CleanUp, More Options, System Restore and remove all but the latest System Restore points? Restore points can be quite large.

You should use Disk CleanUp regularly to Empty your Recycle Bin and Remove Temporary Internet Files. Whenever you remove redundant files you should always run Disk Defragmenter by selecting Start, All Programs, Accessories, System Tools, Disk Defragmenter.

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It is likely that an allocation of 12% has been made to System Restore on your C partition which is over generous. I would reduce it to 700 mb. Right click your My Computer icon on the Desktop and select System Restore. Place the cursor on your C drive select Settings but this time find the slider and drag it to the left until it reads 700 mb and exit. When you get to the Settings screen click on Apply and OK and exit.

If your hard drive is formatted as NTFS another potential gain arises with your operating system on your C drive. In the Windows Directory of your C partition you will have some Uninstall folders in your Windows folder typically: \$NtServicePackUninstall\$ and \$NtUninstallKB282010\$ etc.

These files may be compressed or not compressed. If compressed the text of the folder name appears in blue characters. If not compressed you can compress them. Right click on each folder and select Properties, General, Advanced and check the box before Compress contents to save Disk Space. On the General Tab you can see the amount gained by deducting the size on disk from the size. Folder compression is only an option on a NTFS formatted drive / partition.

Another default setting on a large drive which could be wasteful is that for temporary internet files especially if you do not store offline copies on disk. The default allocation is 3% of drive. Depending on your attitude to offline copies you could reduce this to 1% or 2%. In Internet Explorer select Tools, Internet Options, General, Temporary Internet Files, Settings to make the change. At the same time look at the number of days history is held.

The default allocation for the Recycle Bin is 10 % of drive. On your drive 5% should be sufficient. In Windows Explorer place the cursor on your Recycle Bin, right click and select Properties, Global and move the slider from 10% to 5%.

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Hope this helps.

Gerry

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FCA

Stourport, England

Enquire, plan and execute

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"Greg Wallace" <GregWallace@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:924866A1-BF77-46C4-AD07-10340BEF3F44@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I recently messed up by setting the space allocated for System Restore to the max. It didn't dawn on me at the time that I did that that all of that

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space
would be allocated at the beginning of the disk, causing all of the system files, etc. to be moved way down toward the inside of the disk. What this has done is degraded the performance of my machine enormously. Pulling up any application, built-in (System Control Panel, Internet Explorer) or user-installed (Norton, etc.) takes about 20 minutes. I had been struggling for close to a week trying to figure out what caused all of this data to be pushed down and only today realized that it was me having bumped up that System Restore space that caused this problem. I have now reduced the System Restore setting to its minimum, but the disk defragmentor only moved a small portion of the files back to the first of the disk. Apparently, all it does is defragment but not compact. I want them all compacted down. I tried Norton Speed Disk but it seems to think that the area that System Restore had taken up is still unavailable and won't move any data into it. Can someone tell me how to compact all of the files down to the beginning of the disk? Assuming there's no way to do it with Windows built in functions, is there any 3rd party software that will do that? Once I get it all compacted down, then I should be able to run Speed disk to get it organized properly.

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Greg Wallace