

Re: Drive letter issues in restore

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.help_and_support/2007-12/msg02740.htm

- *From:* Whoopedoo
 - *Date:* Sun, 30 Dec 2007 14:20:35 -0500
-

JS

Disk Manager shows Drive Z as follows:

Spare_Backup (Z:)

372.61 GB NTFS

Healthy (Active)

No mention of "System" anywhere in drive Z: info.

Drive C: shows:

Win_XP-SATA (C:)

Healthy (System)

Your second point about System Restore only being of value for the partition that windows is installed on is noted. However, since windows is on C:, I would think that C: should show up in the System Restore settings dialog box, instead of Z: & D: only.

Thanks,

Gary

On Sun, 30 Dec 2007 13:07:56 -0500, "JS" <@> wrote:

Open Disk Manager and see what is shows about the Z drive, it 'Should Not' be an 'Active/System' partition.

Second point: System Restore is only of value for the partition that Windows is installed on, it has no value for other drives/partitions.

From the KB article titled:

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding System Restore in Windows XP

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/community/newsgroups/faqsrxp.msp>

JS

<whoopedoo@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

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news:tgfn31mcorhne4hen0a5tbc5c10nsi6nu@xxxxxxxxxxx

Gents,

First off I'm running Win XP Pro with SP2. I recently added a hard drive and now my restore system doesn't recognize all the drives.

I was originally running a single SATA drive which was partitioned as follows:

C: the primary and system partition

D: an extended partition – logical drive used for storage.

At this point the system restore was working fine and monitoring both the C & D drives. I recently added a second SATA drive. I cloned my original drive with the C: & D: partitions over to the new drive (which is slightly smaller than the original drive). The drive boots fine with no problem and the restore system is monitoring both the C: & D: partitions. And it recognizes the C: as the system drive.

The problem starts when I add the old original SATA drive to the system. I formatted the disk and renamed it with the drive letter Z:. I now use this drive for a backup drive.

Now when I look at restore, the system is monitoring the Z: drive which it calls the system drive and D:. I have no idea what happened to C:. If I disconnect the spare drive Z:, the system restore seems to return to normal – C:& D:.

The system check points and restore points that I have created show up, OK. However, the amount (%) of space I have allocated for keeping restore information, does seem to indicate that the restore system is looking at the Z: drive.

I looked back about a year or so through the posts and found some information concerning one of the M/S' MVP sites that had to do with missing drive letters in the restore function. There are two options mentioned. The first has to do with accessing the System Volume Information (SVI) folder. I followed the instructions and went to the SVI on drive C: and renamed the "drivetable.txt" file to old_drivetable.txt. (By the way it was correctly showing the C:,D: & Z: drives in the text file). I backed out, reset the permissions and rebooted the system. A new drivetable.txt file was created. It also showed the correct drives C:,D; & Z:. However, when I go to restore, only the Z: & D: drives are shown – same as before. While I was looking, I also checked the SVI folder on the D: & Z: drive just to make sure that there wasn't a duplicate copy of the drivetable.txt file there – there wasn't.

OK the second step shown at the site was to "Reinstall system restore in Win XP". This option removes all existing restore points and resets the system restore monitoring options to the default (all drives). I

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really don't have a huge problem removing my restore points in order to fix my problem, since most of the points are just system checkpoints anyway. I have my entire system backed up with Acronis on my backup drive, so I can restore from their if I absolutely need to.

I really don't want to remove all the existing restore points to fix the drive monitoring option unless I have to. But if that option is all I have available, I'll do it.

Comments and suggestions welcome.

Thank,

Gary