

Re: Disk Management Tool in XP Upgrade

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- *From:* "Ken Blake, MVP" <kblake@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 14 Jun 2006 12:29:34 -0700
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hiredgun56@xxxxxxxx wrote:

Okay...let me go step by step: maybe this will help other folk too....which is why we're here...

I had to reinstall my OS due to MS updates conflicts.

I had a FAT 32 Partition allocated 35 gig...and a NTFS partition 33 gig, that i had to delete.

I took the advice of Seagate, and completely zero-ed out the drive...took about 5 hours. seeing I was having problems deleting the NTFS partition.

The puter is a HP pavilion, with WIN ME. I got into FDISK, and had problems setting partitions. After I finally got a DOS primary partition installed, I used the HP recovery disks to reinstall the system.

After I reinstalled the OS, I upgraded to XP Home.

All of this was entirely unnecessary. You didn't need to zero-fill the drive, you didn't need to use FDISK for anything, and you didn't need to install Windows Me before using the Windows XP Upgrade.

The requirement to use an upgrade version is to *own* a previous qualifying version's installation CD (with an OEM restore CD, see below), not to have it installed. When setup doesn't find a previous qualifying version installed, it will prompt you to insert its CD as proof of ownership. Just insert the previous version's CD, and follow the prompts. Everything proceeds quite normally and quite legitimately.

You can also do a clean installation if you have an OEM restore CD of a previous qualifying version. It's more complicated, but it *can* be done. First restore from the Restore CD. Then run the XP upgrade CD from within that restored system, and change from Upgrade to New Install. When it asks

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where, press Esc to delete the partition and start over.

Since you apparently just did this and don't really have much, if anything, but the operating system on the drive yet, if I were you, I'd just start over. Do a clean installation by booting from the XP Upgrade CD (change the BIOS boot order if necessary to accomplish this) and follow the prompts for a clean installation (delete the existing partition by pressing "D" when prompted, then create a new one—preferably NTFS, not FAT32, since you apparently want it all in a single partition.).

You can find detailed instructions here:

<http://michaelstevestech.com/cleanxpinstall.html>

or here <http://windowsxp.myps.org/XPClean.htm>

or here http://www.webtree.ca/windowsxp/clean_install.htm

this is probably at
least the 6th time in 3 years I've had to reinstall the XP update.

That's extraordinary. Why? With reasonably good maintenance, you should never have to do that. I've run Windows 3.0, 3.1, WFWG 3.11, Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000, and Windows XP, each for the period of time before the next version came out, and each on two machines here. I never reinstalled any of them, and I have never had anything more than an occasional minor problem.

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

Now, my puter is only seeing 33 gig of storage, and I cant find the rest of it. Disk Management in XP is greyed out, expect for open, explore, and properties.

Now....I'm trying to find the rest of the HD storage....which I can't seem to do.

The system runs fine, just have only 33 gig out of 74 after formatting, to use.

I've installed the system before, never had problems like this.

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Ken Blake, MVP wrote:

hiredgun56@xxxxxxxxx wrote:

Problem: Seagate Hard Drive 80 gb.; and XP is only recognizing 33 gig. File system was installed as Fat 32.

Windows XP will not create a FAT32 partition larger than 32GB (although it will happily use one if it is first created externally). You are running into that limit.

The Disk Management tool will not function, to find lost hard drive space, which is over 40 Gig.

It's not lost space., it's just unpartitioned space. You can't use it until it's partitioned.

Question: Am I to assume that the Disk Mangement tool will only function when the File table is NTFS?

No, that's not correct. The unpartitioned isn't even NTFS. It doesn't even have a file system until you've partitioned it.

It sounds like you're just doing something wrong. Read here: "How to use Disk Management to configure basic disks in Windows XP" at <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/309000>

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Gee, I'd actually like to use the 40 gig....I like to use what I pay for....

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Thanks....