

# Re: Files not displayed in 'old' my documents folder

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.newusers/2006-12/msg00104.html>

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- *From:* "Shaun" <[snoggle@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:snoggle@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sat, 02 Dec 2006 02:58:24 GMT
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If you did not format, they are their, do as Frank Saunders, above said.

"Luca007" <[Luca007@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Luca007@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:90E134D5-701A-48C9-B967-30C812846D35@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:90E134D5-701A-48C9-B967-30C812846D35@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

All my folders are still remaining and were not overwritten by the re-install of XP (except for those in the 'My Documents' folder and sub-folders). I am still confused though as to why the disk space has not been re-allocated then, if as you say, the files have been deleted ?

"Carl F" wrote:

Luca007 wrote:

I am looking for files which existed before I re-installed XP. The files however, were those contained in the 'My Documents' folders and sub-folders for the original 'user' that came with the computer pre-installed. I have looked in each 'Documents and Settings' folder and sub-folders and cannot find any of my original files. As I said, I believe they still exist on the disk as the disk is half full (and these files were the large majority of those that existed pre-re-install).

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"Carl F" wrote:

Frank Saunders, MS-MVP OE/WM wrote:

"Luca007"

<Luca007@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

[news:04229F1D-26A5-4F8D-8E30-F49F3C11C7BB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:04229F1D-26A5-4F8D-8E30-F49F3C11C7BB@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I am  
running  
Windows  
XP Home  
SP2, which  
was  
pre-loaded  
on the  
machine  
when I  
bought it.  
A short  
while ago I  
was having  
a lot of  
corruption  
on my hard  
disk  
and  
Windows  
would crash  
and then on  
re-boot go  
through  
chkdsk.  
To  
overcome  
this, I was  
advised to  
reload  
Windows,  
which I did.

My problem  
is that now,  
I cannot  
display files  
that were in  
the  
original my  
documents

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folder.  
I used to  
have a  
default  
account on  
the machine  
and never  
set up my  
own  
personal  
account. I  
stored many  
Gb's of  
music,  
videos,  
pictures, etc  
in that  
accounts  
'my  
documents'  
folder.  
When I  
reloaded  
Windows  
this time, I  
was asked  
to create an  
account  
which I  
did, ie,  
Dave.  
Now, when  
I try to find  
those  
original  
files, I  
cannot. I  
know they  
are  
still there as  
my hard  
disk is half  
full (there  
aren't any  
other  
files to  
talk of on  
the disk).  
I have only  
used  
Windows

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Explorer to  
look for  
them, but it  
doesn't  
find them.

My  
question is  
this:– Is  
there a way  
of 'finding'  
these files  
and  
moving  
them to my  
personal  
'my  
documents'  
area?

Under C:\Documents and  
settings each user has a  
folder named My  
Documents. Look in each of  
them and their sub-folders.

Are you looking for files which existed  
before you re-installed xp?  
If you are and these files were in C:  
(windows) subfolder, they were  
probably erased when you re-installed xp.  
If you did not save then to another place  
(another drive, CD or DVD)  
they are probably gone forever. Backup!  
Backup! Backup! is the first  
rule of computing.

Carl F

Carl F

If the files were originally installed by the maker of the PC and you  
use a maker provided disk to re-install they would likely be installed  
in their original location. If you re-installed with a Microsoft disk  
and the files are original Microsoft files it is likely they would be  
re-installed in their original location. If they are files you created  
since receiving the PC and did not save them, they are gone. The C: disk

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(partition) is completely re-written by a re-install. Otherwise, if you know a file name or names use search to find them.