

## Re: bad clusters != bad sectors? CHKDSK. How many is normal?

**Source:**

[http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform\\_maintain/2004-02/1295.html](http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.perform_maintain/2004-02/1295.html)

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**From:** philo (*philo\_at\_privacy.net*)

**Date:** 02/08/04

Date: Sun, 8 Feb 2004 16:35:23 -0600

"qazzaq" <nettrash@subdimension.com> wrote in message  
news:61cb689e.0402081407.57208233@posting.google.com...

> *Hi all,*

>

> *This is regarding my main PC, which I've had for about 2.5 years.*

> *From the beginning, WinXP has always needed to do CHKDSK, every 2 weeks*

> *or so, and it often finds bad clusters and errors in the MFT. "Minor*

> *inconsistencies" are even more frequently found. This computer never*

> *BSODs, and is very rarely subjected to abrupt power cuts.*

>

> *Interestingly, CHKDSK always reports zero bad sectors, which suggests*

> *that bad sectors != bad clusters. So what are bad clusters really? The*

> *bad clusters are often found in scary looking OS system files, but as*

> *long as I let WinXP do CHKDSK about once a month, the system seems to*

> *behave OK, lasting a year or so between reinstalls.*

>

> *I don't think it's the harddrives because I have RMAed (exchanged) two*

> *WD400BB's and the problems remained exactly the same.*

> *Recently I bought a new 160GB Deskstar 7K250, so I did an OS reinstall,*

> *but 1 week later, I am having the same old problems.*

>

> *I am using an IWill KK266+R mainboard, and the supplied 18inch flat*

> *ATA100 cables.*

> *Will shorter cables will help? Is it the motherboard?*

I'd do a comprehensive RAM test