

Re: converting to NTFS

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.setup_deployment/2005-04/msg00215.htm

- *From:* "simplefella" <simplefella@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 3 Apr 2005 07:49:02 -0700
-

"Mike Hall (MS-MVP)" wrote:

> Steve
>
> A reasonable amount of free space is required for this task (can't remember
> just how much), and you should ALWAYS backup (save) important data before
> starting a major change.. the unexpected is always around the corner,
> waiting patiently..
>
> --
> Mike Hall
> MVP – Windows Shell/user
>
> <http://dts-l.org/goodpost.htm>
>
>
>
>
> "SteveMS" <SteveMS@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
> news:9ED85B78-0124-47F3-B1A5-FAAB657E33D9@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
> >I am keen to do this to my laptop, switch to NTFS. If I do this, will I
> >lose
> > any information?
> >
> > SteveMS
> >
> > "Jim Macklin" wrote:
> >
> >> You must open a command line window first. START/Run type
> >> cmd
> >>
> >> Then you follow the procedures listed..
> >> Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600]
> >> (C) Copyright 1985–2001 Microsoft Corp.
> >>

Re: converting to NTFS

```
>>> C:\Documents and Settings\>convert /?
>>> Converts FAT volumes to NTFS.
>>>
>>> CONVERT volume /FS:NTFS [/V] [/CvtArea:filename]
>>> [/NoSecurity] [/X]
>>>
>>> volume Specifies the drive letter (followed by a
>>> colon),
>>> mount point, or volume name.
>>> /FS:NTFS Specifies that the volume is to be converted
>>> to NTFS.
>>> /V Specifies that Convert should be run in
>>> verbose mode.
>>> /CvtArea:filename
>>> Specifies a contiguous file in the root
>>> directory to be
>>> the place holder for NTFS system files.
>>> /NoSecurity Specifies the converted files and directories
>>> security
>>> settings to be accessible by everyone.
>>> /X Forces the volume to dismount first if
>>> necessary.
>>> All opened handles to the volume would then be
>>> invalid.
>>>
>>> C:\Documents and Settings\>
>>>
>>> You should perform some maintenance procedures before doing
>>> the conversion; do a disk clean up, run check disk to check
>>> the file system and the disk surface. Although the convert
>>> procedure usually completes without any data loss, some
>>> settings may change and if there is a serious problem,
>>> having done a backup of data and settings will save your
>>> files. Make sure your power supply is from the wall is
>>> stable, don't do the conversion when the power is flickering
>>> or there are storms nearby. Using a high capacity UPS is a
>>> good idea.
>>>
>>> Help and Support on the START menu has more, just search for
>>> convert...
>>> here is one page of 32 available.
>>> Convert
>>> Converts FAT and FAT32 volumes to NTFS.
>>>
>>> Syntax
>>> convert [volume] /fs:ntfs [/v] [/cvtarea:FileName]
>>> [/nosecurity] [/x]
>>>
>>> Parameters
>>> volume
>>> Specifies the drive letter (followed by a colon), mount
```

Re: converting to NTFS

>>> point, or volume name to convert to NTFS.
>>> /fs:ntfs
>>> Required. Converts the volume to NTFS.
>>> /v
>>> Specifies verbose mode, that is, all messages will be
>>> displayed during conversion.
>>> /cvtarea:FileName
>>> For advanced users only. Specifies that the Master File
>>> Table (MFT) and other NTFS metadata files are written to an
>>> existing, contiguous placeholder file. This file must be in
>>> the root directory of the file system to be converted. Use
>>> of the /CVTAREA parameter can result in a less fragmented
>>> file system after conversion. For best results, the size of
>>> this file should be 1 KB multiplied by the number of files
>>> and directories in the file system, however, the convert
>>> utility accepts files of any size.
>>> For more information about using the /cvtarea parameter,
>>> see "File Systems" at the Microsoft Windows XP Resource Kits
>>> Web site.(<http://www.microsoft.com/>)
>>>
>>> Important
>>>
>>> a.. You must create the placeholder file using the
>>> fsutil file createnew command prior to running convert.
>>> Convert does not create this file for you. Convert
>>> overwrites this file with NTFS metadata. After conversion,
>>> any unused space in this file is freed. For more information
>>> about the fsutil file command, see Related Topics.
>>> /nosecurity
>>> Specifies that the converted files and directory security
>>> settings are accessible by everyone.
>>> /x
>>> Dismounts the volume, if necessary, before it is
>>> converted. Any open handles to the volume will no longer be
>>> valid.
>>> Remarks
>>> a.. You must specify that the drive should be converted
>>> when the computer is restarted. Otherwise, you cannot
>>> convert the current drive.
>>> b.. If convert cannot lock the drive (for example, the
>>> system volume or the current drive), it offers to convert
>>> the drive the next time the computer restarts.
>>> c.. The location of the MFT is different on volumes that
>>> have been converted from previous version of NTFS, so volume
>>> performance might not be as good on volumes converted from
>>> Windows NT.
>>> d.. Volumes converted from FAT to NTFS lack some
>>> performance benefits compared to volumes initially formatted
>>> with NTFS. On converted volumes, the MFT might become
>>> fragmented. In addition, on converted boot volumes, NTFS
>>> permissions are not applied after the volume is converted.

Re: converting to NTFS

>>> Examples
>>> To convert the volume on drive E to NTFS and display all
>>> messages, type:
>>>
>>> convert e: /fs:ntfs /v
>>>
>>> Related Topics
>>>
>>>
>>> --
>>> The people think the Constitution protects their rights;
>>> But government sees it as an obstacle to be overcome.
>>>
>>>
>>> "simplefella" <simplefella@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote
>>> in message
>>> news:8292CB8E-9D5B-47CE-8EDB-C078B77550E0@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
>>> | My XP file system is FAT32. To convert everything tells
>>> me to type either
>>> | help convert or just convert on command line. I get the
>>> response that
>>> | neither command is recognised. Where do I go from here?
>>>
>>>
>>>
>
>
> My question seems to be generating a lot of interest but no information that works for me. I have read everything from Help and Support and have read other bits on web and knowledge base. Fact is exactly as I stated it – plus fact that convert.exe does not appear when I do a search. Could someone send me the convert file rather than telling me what it should do! My laptop – which I am trying to convert – came preloaded by Tiny. (It will not help to be told I should not have bought from Tiny)

- **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **Re: converting to NTFS**
◇ From: george

- **References:**

- ◆ **converting to NTFS**
◇ From: simplefella
- ◆ **Re: converting to NTFS**
◇ From: Jim Macklin
- ◆ **Re: converting to NTFS**
◇ From: SteveMS
- ◆ **Re: converting to NTFS**
◇ From: Mike Hall \ (MS-MVP\)

- Prev by Date: **self boot up**

Re: converting to NTFS

- Next by Date: ***Re: converting to NTFS***
- Previous by thread: ***Re: converting to NTFS***
- Next by thread: ***Re: converting to NTFS***
- Index(es):
 - ◆ ***Date***
 - ◆ ***Thread***