



Hard Drives on Your Old Desktop Computer

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You Have a New Desktop Computer

- You've transferred all your data to the new one (you hope)
- How do I deal with the privacy of data on old computer?
- What are my options for the old computer?

Options for Old Desktop

- **Put the old computer in the garage**

Pros:

- Quick and Easy
- Can be restarted if some data is missing

Cons

- Garage is already filled with stuff and spouse complains
- Need to save room for the boat you want to buy

Options for Old Computer

- **Keep the Operating System intact and give to someone else to use**

- Delete all of your data for privacy reasons

Pros:

- Someone may get some usage from the old beast
- You feel good about saving the planet

Cons:

- Must be certain all desired data is transferred to new computer
- Your data is not really deleted. Software programs can recover it.
- Hard to find anyone who wants an old desktop.

Options for Old Computer

- **Wipe the Hard Drive and give to someone else to use.**

Pros:

- Data Wiping programs will make your data “unrecoverable” for everyone but the FBI

Cons:

- Must be certain all desired data is transferred to new computer
- Even harder to find someone who wants an old desktop with no Operating system.

Options for Old Computer

- **Wipe the Hard Drive and Reinstall Operating System**

Pros:

- Desktop will be fully functional for someone else.
- Runs like new.

Cons:

- Must be certain all desired data is transferred to new computer
- Need to Have Windows Installation disks or use Recovery Partition (do not wipe it!)
- Requires a lot of time to reload Windows.
- Unlikely anyone will want the desktop anyway.

Wiping a Hard Drive

- Drive Wiping Programs intended for partitions or whole drives. Many are free.
 - Wiping programs overwrite all of your data with “1’s” and “0’s”
 - DBAN is a good one (Derek’s Boot and Nuke)
 - Download program and copy to DVD or Flash Drive
 - Boot from DVD or Flash Drive
- All such programs must boot from another source to wipe the main drive.

Destroy the old Hard Drive

Picture is Self Explanatory



Save the Old Hard Drive

Remove the hard drive and connect it to new computer as an external drive

Pros:

- Don't have to worry about privacy or security
- Data will be available as long as you wish

Cons:

- Old computer will be worthless without a hard drive
- Need to buy a small connector to make drive into an external drive

Removing Hard Drives

Live Demonstration of Hard Drive Removal

- All internal hard drives are the same physical size. 3.5 inch for desktops and 2.5 inch for laptops.
- Some are held in place with screws on each side
- Some just use a clipping mechanism and can be removed by hand

Two Types of Hard Drives

Older Drives are called "PATA" or "IDE" and newer ones are "SATA"

- IDE drives have a wide ribbon cable for data and a four pin plug for power.
- SATA drives have a small ribbon cable for data and a small ribbon cable for power.
- Either style can be connected as an external drive to your new computer.

External Connector

- Purchase device for \$10 or so.
- Search Amazon for: *SATA/PATA/IDE Drive to USB 2.0 Adapter Converter Cable*
- Works for all internal hard drives, even 2.5 inch laptop drives.
- Great for transferring data to new hard drive on same or new computer.

External Connector

Amazon offers these connectors for \$10 or so.



SATA/PATA/IDE Drive to USB 2.0 Adapter Converter Cable for 2.5 / 3.5 Inch Hard Drive / 5 inch Optical Drive with External AC Power Adapter

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External Connector

Newegg is another source for these adapters.



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External Connector In Use

Live Demonstration of External connector

- External drive shows up as a separate drive letter.
- Copy and paste files to new computer as desired.