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Subject: Does formatting wipe out everything?

Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Sat, 19 May 2007 17:49:00 GMT

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I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but needs to be wiped nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard that there are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.

Thanks,

Deej

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?

Posted by [xpam\\_mark](#) on Sat, 19 May 2007 18:40:16 GMT

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Deej, lets put it this way. I have recovered every piece of data off several 80gb drives that were fully formatted, supposedly erased forever. There is a prog or two out there which are DOD approved for wiping a drive. I think I have one here. Lemme see if i can find it.

WMW

"DJ" <[www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com](mailto:www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com)> wrote in message [news:464f3a13\\$1@linux...](mailto:news:464f3a13$1@linux...)

> I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a  
> number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with  
> confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but  
> needs to be wiped nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard that  
> there are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data  
> unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.

>  
> Thanks,

>  
> Deej

>  
>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?

Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Sat, 19 May 2007 18:49:56 GMT

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Thanks Mark,

Appreciated. It's either an effective wipe or selling the unit without a system drive.

Deej

"W. Mark Wilson" <xpam\_mark@avidrecording> wrote in message news:464f461b\$1@linux...

> Deej, lets put it this way. I have recovered every piece of data off  
> several 80gb drives that were fully formatted, supposedly erased forever.  
> There is a prog or two out there which are DOD approved for wiping a  
> drive. I think I have one here. Lemme see if i can find it.

>

> WMW

>

> "DJ" <www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com> wrote in message news:464f3a13\$1@linux...

>> I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a  
>> number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with  
>> confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but  
>> needs to be wipedd nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard  
>> that ther4e are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data  
>> unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.

>>

>> Thanks,

>>

>> Deej

>>

>>

>

>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Sat, 19 May 2007 18:52:00 GMT  
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<http://www.bluestsoft.com/en/products/diskdeleterpro.html>

this looks like it would do the trick

"W. Mark Wilson" <xpam\_mark@avidrecording> wrote in message news:464f461b\$1@linux...

> Deej, lets put it this way. I have recovered every piece of data off  
> several 80gb drives that were fully formatted, supposedly erased forever.  
> There is a prog or two out there which are DOD approved for wiping a  
> drive. I think I have one here. Lemme see if i can find it.

>

> WMW  
>  
> "DJ" <www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com> wrote in message news:464f3a13\$1@linux...  
>> I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a  
>> number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with  
>> confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but  
>> needs to be wiped nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard  
>> that there are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data  
>> unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.  
>>  
>> Thanks,  
>>  
>> Deej  
>>  
>>  
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>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sat, 19 May 2007 18:55:14 GMT  
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How about eraser?

<http://www.heidi.ie/eraser/>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [xpam\\_mark](#) on Sat, 19 May 2007 19:07:42 GMT  
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Deej, ping me with your non-argh email account...

WMW markatavidrekordingdotcom C instead of K

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com> wrote in message news:464f485b\$1@linux...  
> Thanks Mark,  
>  
> Appreciated. It's either an effective wipe or selling the unit without a  
> system drive.  
>  
> Deej  
>  
> "W. Mark Wilson" <xpam\_mark@avidrecording> wrote in message  
> news:464f461b\$1@linux...  
>> Deej, lets put it this way. I have recovered every piece of data off

>> several 80gb drives that were fully formatted, supposedly erased forever.  
>> There is a prog or two out there which are DOD approved for wiping a  
>> drive. I think I have one here. Lemme see if i can find it.  
>>  
>> WMW  
>>  
>> "DJ" <www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com> wrote in message news:464f3a13\$1@linux...  
>>> I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a  
>>> number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with  
>>> confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but  
>>> needs to be wiped nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard  
>>> that there are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data  
>>> unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.  
>>>  
>>> Thanks,  
>>>  
>>> Deej  
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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sat, 19 May 2007 22:08:54 GMT  
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How about eraser?

"John" <no@no.com> wrote:  
>  
>  
>How about eraser?  
>  
><http://www.heidi.ie/eraser/>

---

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [erlilo](#) on Sun, 20 May 2007 05:24:52 GMT  
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There's plenty of programs to do that kind of job. Here's one of them:  
[http://www.v-com.com/product/SecurErase\\_Home.html](http://www.v-com.com/product/SecurErase_Home.html)

Erling

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com> skrev i en meddelelse  
news:464f3a13\$1@linux...

> I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a  
> number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with  
> confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but  
> needs to be wiped nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard that  
> there are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data  
> unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.

>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Deej  
>  
>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [Deej \[4\]](#) on Sun, 20 May 2007 05:36:19 GMT  
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"erlilo" <erlingl@tdcadsl.dk> wrote in message news:464fdd30\$1@linux...  
> There's plenty of programs to do that kind of job. Here's one of them:  
> [http://www.v-com.com/product/SecurErase\\_Home.html](http://www.v-com.com/product/SecurErase_Home.html)  
>  
> Erling  
>

How about eraser? :oD

Thanks Erling

;o)

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [erlilo](#) on Sun, 20 May 2007 06:35:11 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"DJ" <www.aarrrrggghh!!!.com> skrev i en meddelelse  
news:464fdfdb\$1@linux...

>  
> "erlilo" <erlingl@tdcadsl.dk> wrote in message news:464fdd30\$1@linux...  
>> There's plenty of programs to do that kind of job. Here's one of them:  
>> [http://www.v-com.com/product/SecurErase\\_Home.html](http://www.v-com.com/product/SecurErase_Home.html)

>>  
>> Erling  
>>  
>  
>  
> How about eraser? :oD  
>  
> Thanks Erling  
>  
> ;o)  
>  
>  
Haven't tried any of them. But I think "Eraser" is freeware and  
"SecureErase" cost you some \$. If they do the same job, it must be easy to  
make a choice. ;oD  
I'm travelling to Crete later on today for two weeks, so my head and body  
are into a form for holidaygear right now;-)

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [Edna Sloan](#) on Sun, 20 May 2007 15:14:47 GMT  
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I believe Norton Utilities has one that writes zeros to the entire drive.  
Edna

"DJ" <[www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com](http://www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com)> wrote in message news:464f3a13\$1@linux...  
> I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a  
> number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with  
> confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but  
> needs to be wipedd nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard that  
> ther4e are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data  
> unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Deej  
>  
>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Sun, 20 May 2007 15:59:30 GMT  
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"edna" > wrote:  
>I believe Norton Utilities has one that writes zeros to the entire drive.

Doesn't it have to write an equal amount of "1's", as well - otherwise the drive would be out of phase?

:D

---

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Mon, 21 May 2007 04:02:47 GMT  
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Pull the drive and smash it with a hammer. That way you know for sure what's what. It's what I do in these situations.

TCB

"DJ" <[www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com](http://www.aarrrrggghhh!!!.com)> wrote:

>I've got an old Dell laptop here that I used for a few years. It's had a

>number of things on the HD over time, including some work files with  
>confidential info (noting that could ever be used by anyone really, but

>needs to be wiped nonetheless. Will formatting do this? I have heard that

>there are some \*wipe\* proggies that will basically render any data  
>unrecoverable short of the stuff that NSA uses.

>

>Thanks,

>

>Deej

>

>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [Edna Sloan](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 00:17:33 GMT  
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I have no idea, I've never used it, but if so, I stand corrected. . .

"Neil" <[IUI@OI.com](mailto:IUI@OI.com)> wrote in message [news:46507062\\$1@linux...](mailto:news:46507062$1@linux...)

>

> "edna" > wrote:

>>I believe Norton Utilities has one that writes zeros to the entire drive.

>

> Doesn't it have to write an equal amount of "1's", as well -

> otherwise the drive would be out of phase?

---

>  
> :D

---

---

Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 02:28:15 GMT  
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I was just joking about the drive being "out of phase".

:)

"edna" <edna@texomaonline.com> wrote:

>I have no idea, I've never used it, but if so, I stand corrected. . .

>

>"Neil" <IUUI@OI.com> wrote in message news:46507062\$1@linux...

>>

>> "edna" > wrote:

>>>I believe Norton Utilities has one that writes zeros to the entire drive.

>>

>> Doesn't it have to write an equal amount of "1's", as well -

>> otherwise the drive would be out of phase?

>>

>> :D

>

>

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Subject: Re: Does formatting wipe out everything?  
Posted by [Edna Sloan](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 23:32:30 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Thought you were...but seems like you are right about the ones and zeroes

:)

"Neil" <IUOIU@OI.com> wrote in message news:4652553f\$1@linux...

>

> I was just joking about the drive being "out of phase".

>

> :)

>

>

>

> "edna" <edna@texomaonline.com> wrote:

>>I have no idea, I've never used it, but if so, I stand corrected. . .



>>  
>>"Neil" <IUI@Ol.com> wrote in message news:46507062\$1 @linux...  
>>>  
>>> "edna" > wrote:  
>>>>I believe Norton Utilities has one that writes zeros to the entire  
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>>>  
>>> Doesn't it have to write an equal amount of "1's", as well -  
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>>> :D  
>>  
>>  
>

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