
Subject: Can't see a partition in Win98SE

Posted by [Rich Kelley](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 15:32:56 GMT

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Howdy,

I have a new Seagate 400 GB HD I'm trying to set up on Win98SE with FAT 32. I'm trying to make 3 133 GB partitions on the drive (to stay below the 137GB limit for any one partition). System is an old MSI K7 Pro (MS-6195) w/ a 900 MHz Athlon slot A. I'm able to make the three partitions using Seagate's partitioning program that came with the drive when I have the drive on my primary master.

However, when the drive is on the secondary IDE cable the third partition is messed up. In the disk partitioning program it says that the partition is a FAT 16 partition (it's not), and in Win98SE I can't see the third partition at all. I checked the drive on another Win98SE system (also old, I will XP333 with a Athlon 1800+) and couldn't see the third partition there either.

Any ideas what's up? I should be able to see all three partitions in Win98SE, correct? Is it the fact that the boards are so old? Could it be a problem with the drive?

Thanks for any help.

Rich Kelley

Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 15:51:37 GMT

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More likely, problem with the controller, IE the motherboard. Try a BIOS update? If that doesn't cut it perhaps an IDE/ PCI controller would. BTW, I hate those hard drive software utilities, when they get confused data goes bye bye. Avoid it if you can.

AA

"Rich Kelley" <rich_and_barbara@netzero.net> wrote in message [news:448edaa8\\$1@linux...](mailto:news:448edaa8$1@linux...)

>

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I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?
<http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html>

Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [excelav](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 16:27:24 GMT
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I believe you can only have partition sizes of 32GB with FAT32???

James

"Rich Kelley" <rich_and_barbara@netzero.net> wrote:

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>Rich Kelley

Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Rich Kelley](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 22:43:08 GMT
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I was guessing it was the board. I friend at work who has built his share of systems told me that often in older MB the IDE2 (secondary) controller is not the equal of the IDE1 (primary). He wasn't that surprised that the IDE2 didn't have quite the capability as the IDE1.

I'm trying to pick up a Asus A7V8X-X board and try that out. Seems to get good reviews around here for a Paris only system.

Thanks,

Rich

What would you use to partition the HD, Partition Magic?

"Aaron Allen" <nospam@not_here.dude> wrote:

>More likely, problem with the controller, IE the motherboard. Try a BIOS

>update? If that doesn't cut it perhaps an IDE/ PCI controller would. BTW,

I

>hate those hard drive software utilities, when they get confused data goes

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Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Rich Kelley](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 22:46:43 GMT
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I've had no problems formatting any large (+137 GB) drive up to 137GB, on Win98FE or Win98SE. I never ran into a 32GB limit.

However, if I paid for 200 or 300 GB, then I want to be able to use it all.

Rich

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

>
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>
>James

Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Mike Audet](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 12:02:54 GMT
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Hi Rich,

Windows 98 doesn't support 48 bit addressing for hard drives, which means you can only use drives no larger than 120 GB. Larger drives will appear to work, but what happens is the data wraps around, so the 121st GB is actually the first GB, and your HD gets scrambled as soon as you write to it.

There are two ways to deal with this. Rudolph Lowe wrote a custom driver that has never worked properly for me. It may be possible to make it work properly, but I've had problems with it.

The other way is to buy a PCI IDE controller card that comes with a 48bit lba driver for windows 98. I've never tried this, but I think I'm about to.

Sorry about the bad news,

Mike

"Rich Kelley" <rich_and_barbara@netzero.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 14:22:28 GMT
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That was an old school motherboard limit that windows got blamed for.
AA

"Rich Kelley" <rich_and_barbara@netzero.net> wrote in message
news:448f4053\$1@linux...

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I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?
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Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Sound Dog](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 16:00:46 GMT
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If you try to format a drive as FAT32 in WinXP it will limit you to 32GB. However, Microsoft issued a patch that you can either install onto your system drive or onto a W98 boot floppy disk, which allows FDSIK to format larger partitions as FAT32 (somebody correct me if I'm wrong).

I have used it on 200GB IDE drives within the last 12 months, but they were partitioned into 1 x 80GB and 1 x 120GB apiece, I haven't tried to partition an entire 200GB HDD as one partition yet. I'm trying it out on some 250GB SATA drives in a couple of weeks, so I hope it can be done !

I can email the patch to you if you like.

Cheers,
Stewart.

Aaron Allen wrote in message <44901a72\$1@linux>...

>That was an old school motherboard limit that windows got blamed for.

>AA

>

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>"Rich Kelley" <rich_and_barbara@netzero.net> wrote in message

>news:448f4053\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Rich Kelley](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 00:39:47 GMT
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Hi Mike,

Thanks for the response. So here's what I don't understand:

I have two other drives that are larger than 137GB, 200GB and 250GB. I have partitioned those drives into two partitions. The partitions show up in Win98SE as two separate drives with unique drive letters. I have no problem seeing and writing to the partitions. When I ask for properties on the partitions they report their size correctly.

It's only the 400GB that is not working properly. I can only see two of three partitions that I have made.

In my admittedly limited understanding of this issue, I thought that it is only the size of the PARTITION that must be below 137GB - I can have as many sub 137GB partitions on a drive as I'd like and the drive can be bigger than 137GB.

Am I mistaken? Are my 200GB and 250GB headed for data loss and I just haven't experienced it yet? I seem to be getting both conflicting answers here and conflicting results.

Thanks for any help.

Rich

"Mike Audet" <mike@.....> wrote:

>
>Hi Rich,
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>Windows 98 doesn't support 48 bit addressing for hard drives, which means
>you can only use drives no larger than 120 GB. Larger drives will appear
>to work, but what happens is the data wraps around, so the 121st GB is actually
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>>Rich Kelley
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Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE

Posted by [Rich Kelley](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 00:42:42 GMT

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Yes please, mail me the patch.

Thanks Steward

Rich Kelley

rich_NOand_SPbarbaraAM@netzero.net (remove NO SPAM)

"Sound Dog" <dogster@tpg.com.au> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Mike Audet](#) on Fri, 16 Jun 2006 04:58:57 GMT
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Hi Rich,

My understanding is that if you are using the built in windows drivers for your IDE controller under windows 9x and you are using drives (not partitions) that are larger than 137GB and you try to write to a sector above 137GB (in any partition), you will scramble your drive.

You may be using drivers provided by your MB manufacturer that support 48bit addressing. I couldn't get a straight answer out of Asus about mine.

Good luck!

Mike

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Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Dubya Mark Wilson](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 05:30:24 GMT
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Rich, load that drive up as the ONLY drive on your 6195. Boot to a floppy (any 9x should work but ME boot floppy definitely works). Fdisk the 400GB drive in DOS mode. The methodology for creating and setting logical partitions (drives) is self-explanatory with the ME boot.

When you go to format the drive, do that in DOS too. DOS may tell you that the formatted size is (or will be) something less than what you created but let it go.

This process takes longer but you can walk away and do other things while the drive formats.

Dubya

PS... if you don't have an ME boot floppy, do a search for "ME boot floppy" on google.... there's a bunch of extractables on the web... dl and go.

Subject: Re: Can't see a partition in Win98SE
Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Sat, 17 Jun 2006 07:23:38 GMT
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<http://www.bootdisk.com>

AA

"Dubya Mark Wilson" <mark.xspam@avidrecording.com> wrote in message
news:4493923f@linux...

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