



HARD DRIVE ISSUES

In today's computers, **prevention** may be the key to a longer and more efficient computer life. Your hard drive, is your main point of storage and therefore is a very important component in your computer. This internal hard drive is more likely to have issues simply because we use our resources now more than ever. When we have multiple applications open, searches ongoing, we are using our computers as designed to help us work smarter and faster. Sometimes hard drives are overworked because we do not have enough system memory. Sometimes hard drives will give us warning signals of impending problems. As a primary user, keep your eyes and ears open to changes in the way your computer "behaves."

- Hard Drives **DO NOT** make noises such as clicking and/or grinding.
- You should not lose file(s) that have recently been saved. One day it's there, the next it's gone, and you are certain it is not a senior moment.
- Your computer should not lock up during boot up, meaning it may get to one screen, usually the same screen each time, and stop.
- Your computer should not freeze or lock up, and not allow you to shut down properly.
- You should not see "file error" or "disc error" messages on boot up.
- You should not routinely get error messages during normal applications.
- Your system should not run slower, without cause. (Make sure it is not a spyware or virus issue.)
- There should not be an extended delay in loading and running normal applications or seeking data.
- There should not be an extended time in switching between applications.
- You should not have a blue screen, with no characters or a line or two of white characters.
- The disk light on the front of your computer should not be on constantly. It should only be on while loading or saving a program, and an occasional blink/twinkle in between.

There are many more items that could be included on this list of possible issues with your hard drive. If you think you are having problems, **do not keep rebooting** hoping the problem will fix itself, this seldom happens. However, if these symptoms begin to appear, check with ByteSize, we can help. Additionally, you may also wish to attempt an immediate back up to CD or removable thumb drive. Data backup is not just important for documents, but today most people will save pictures, music, presentations, address books, tax records and much, much more.

If you think you are having a problem, we can help! Contact your nearest ByteSize Service Center.

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