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## Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by FDOG - 2008/06/20 12:57

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I am recording with my band soon and we don't want to have our music stored on someone elses external drive. We would like to have all of the masters on our own drive so we will not lose them as has happen to us before. What is a good external drive to use in general? I have heard that at least 7200rpms is vital and also FW400(firewire) are good? Does anyone have any ideas?

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by cdavis6406 - 2008/06/20 23:56

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I built my on with an Antec case with eSATA + USB 2.0, with WB Caviar 500GB drive works great.

The eSATA has real fast XFR speeds and you ca get a PCIe adapter for desktops or laptops if theyre not already equipped.

Got about 175.00 in it total and use it with the system I describe in the blog posted after tis one.

Check it out.

[http://www.protoolsusers.org/option,com\\_fireboard/Itemid,71/func,view/id,6588/catid,8](http://www.protoolsusers.org/option,com_fireboard/Itemid,71/func,view/id,6588/catid,8)

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by cneal - 2008/06/21 12:26

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You should NOT use USB as the interface, it is not supported by digidesign, and will most likely give you problems somewhere down the line.

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by cdavis6406 - 2008/06/22 11:50

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Hes right usb isnt a good choice but the eSATA connections on the Antec External case is. It uses the new SATA standard 3GBS transfer rates.

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by cneal - 2008/06/22 11:54

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I don't believe eSATA is approved by digi either, it may work, but you are taking a bit of a risk. as it hasn't been officially tested.

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by noiseboy55 - 2008/07/04 04:05

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If your system supports it, get a drive with firewire 800 capabilities. G-Tech and Caldigit are the choice of many professionals, though in my experience the G-Tech ones often break. I personally went for a Western Digital as they manufacture excellent drives themselves.

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by playsguitars - 2008/07/04 11:41

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i was an idiot and bought one of those seagate freeagent pro drives a while back. It works great, though it goes into auto sleep mode after ONE MINUTE of inactivity. that sucks when you go to reposition a mic, come back and hit play, only to see a spinning beach ball while the drive "wakes up". apparently in windows you can fix this, but in mac, it's not even an option. sucks "balls" pun intended.

I would just get a laacie, or something along those lines. big studios will sometimes sell hard drives to consumers but they are a bit pricey. (i've used them and they rock, though, it's worth the cash.) dont buy seagate freeagent drives though, they're a headache.

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by MIDIMAN91405 - 2008/07/04 18:16

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You might look into the Rocstor drives they have the 924 chipset firewire 800 400 usb and ata I belive I use the av 800 and 850 drives. And they have been working great. modest price as well And available right here at RSPE check it out. PS dont forget to partion!!!

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by cdavis6406 - 2008/07/04 22:41

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Once again esata is the way to go. I know I know Digi doesnt "officially support it" they are kind of slack when it comes to new hardware architecture.

Here is the deal use an Antec external sata case and drive of choice. The case comes with a pci slot plate with connection for the drive case. On the interal side is a sata cable that goes directly to the sata on the motherboard.

Since all new pc and mac hardware are going this route alot of you are using sata aready. I know all the new mac stuff is and most pc and pc board manufacturers are.

This is the exact same connection, cable, transfer protocol, bit exchange, architecture so on and so on as sata.

What you are doing is extending one of our hard drives outside the case the only differnce is it has its own power supply. This is good because its not taxing your computers power supply.

Mac is already AHCI ready, XP can be moded with Microsoft Mass Storage Matrix.

With sata or esata, same diff, you can get the industry standard 3gds throught put (trust me it smokes IDE, Pata, ata, usb, firewire 400/800)its rock solid, portable, and fasssssssssst. Takes alot of overhead off the memeor and cpu.

You can tr or not at our liesure. But by this time next year you will be either extremely pleased or upgrading to sata/esata.

Buy the way I have used a Lacie, and a couple of other EHDs and this Antec case with WD 500GB cost half what a laacie cost and literaly smokes the others ive used.

Enjoy

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by music - 2008/07/19 19:43

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Hi Karma,

Well, I was in your shoes about a couple of months ago. I'm an Audio student attending an Audio Technical School and

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had spoken w/ 1 of the Digital Audio instructors about suggestions on using a good external HardDrive. His suggestion was to purchase a "LaCie" which is great for audio. Matter of fact, prior to this conversation I had just bought a "Western Digital" and had to re-sell it on Craigslist b/c he had said that "Western Digital" is ONLY good for DATA Storage and NOT an External that you could actually record on using a FireWire Connection INSTEAD of a USB which I used on the "Western Digital". By the way, the "LaCie" that I bought was the 500 Gigs one which I think would hold up A LOT of space.

Anyway, I hope this helps if you haven't gotten that much responses (plus, I just signed up as a member to this website just a few minutes ago and thought I could be of any help).

Mona

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by oursunking - 2008/07/24 00:11

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Hi Mona. I didn't see what interface you're using. If it's anything "M-", I wouldn't suggest using firewire to connect to the external drive. LaCie is very good hardware with an excellent track record. Also, Maxtor's 1TB is affordable and as fast as USB2.0 get; Likewise, I just added an lomega and was actually able to use the Firewire 800 interface will runing an maudio Profire (it's 400). But, this overloaded the whole fireware bus right away. I just plugged in a little Western Digital 250 over USB2.0 and it was fine. I have no idea what the issue was.

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## Re:Looking for a good external drive...

Posted by davidhoffman412 - 2008/07/24 02:12

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I just bought one from Other World Computing

<http://eshop.macsales.com/shop/firewire/on-the-go>

I got the 320 GB, 7200 rpm, FireWire 400/800/USB 2.0

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