

# ***Windows XP Command Line***

Section #3  
Disk Preparation and File  
Management

# Basic DOS commands

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- Changing the Default drive: `C:\>A:`
- You will now be sitting on A drive.
- Clearing the screen: `C:\>CLS`
- The help switch: `[command] /?`
- As an example, try this, type `diskcopy /?` and see what the result is.
- Also, remember to try the full screen quick keys, atl key and enter key at the same time. To return the screen to a small window, press the same keys again.
- Remember also to use the arrow keys to be able to go back to previous commands you may have typed. You can edit these commands and press enter to run the command.

## Disk Formatting

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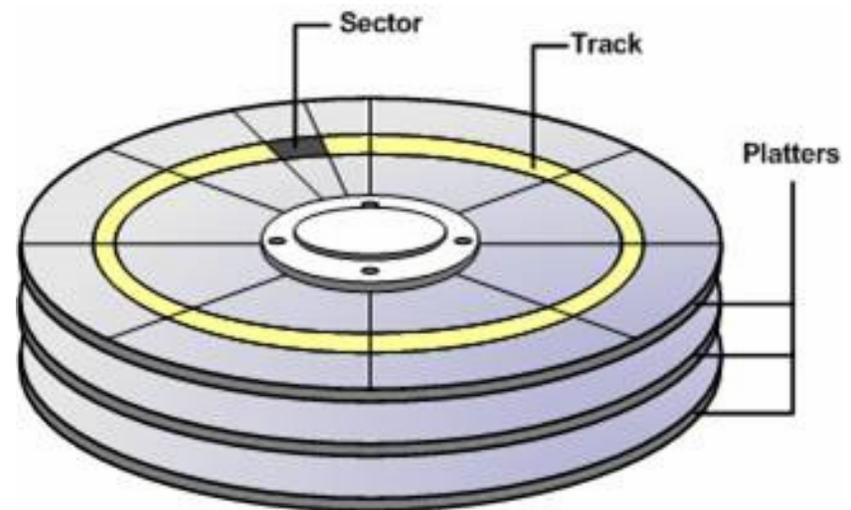
### Formatting (initializing) the disk:

- Process of preparing a disk so that it is compatible with an operating system.
- All disks (including hard disks) must be formatted.
- Why?

# Disk Capacity

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- The capacity of a disk is equal to:  
The size of each sector \*  
The number of sectors per track \*  
The number of tracks per platter side \*  
The number of platters \*  
2  
(since each platter has two sides)



## Capacity Example:

Size per sector	512 byte	<b>512 bytes</b>
Sectors per track	122	<b>=62,464 bytes</b>
Tracks per platter side	6,810	<b>425,379,840 bytes</b>
Heads (platter sides)	6	<b>2,552,279,040 bytes</b>
Total Bytes?		<b>Or 2.38 Gb</b>

## Why do the byte and Gbyte counts seem different?

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- A Kb is  $2^{10}$  byte or 1024 bytes
- Similarly, a Mb is 1024 Kb and a Gb is 1024 Mb.
- So, dividing our byte count by  $1024^3$  we get:

$$2.38Gb = \frac{2,552,279,040 \text{ bytes}}{1,024 \frac{\text{bytes}}{\text{Kb}} \times 1,024 \frac{\text{Kb}}{\text{Mb}} \times 1,024 \frac{\text{Mb}}{\text{Gb}}}$$

## **Disk Formatting continued.**

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Partition terms:

- Primary partition
- Partition table
- Volume
- Active partition
- Extended partition

# Disk Formatting continued.

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Two parts to formatting a disk:

- Low-level (physical) formatting
- High level (logical) formatting

Low-level (physical) formatting:

- Sequentially numbers tracks and sectors
- Identifies each track and sector
- Disk is physically prepared to hold data

High-level (logical) formatting:

- Determines how OS uses a disk
- Builds structure to keep track of location of files
- Done so files can be stored and retrieved.

## **Disk Formatting continued.**

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Formatting:

- Floppy disk - always FAT file system
- Hard disk - you decide

Can convert FAT to FAT32/NTFS

Cannot convert FAT32/NTFS to FAT

## Disk Formatting continued.

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FORMAT command parameters:

→ `FORMAT volume [/FS:file-system]  
[/V:label] [/Q] [A:size] [/C] [/X]`

`FORMAT volume [/V:label] [/Q] [/F:size]`

Basic syntax of FORMAT command:

→ `FORMAT A:`

# Copying, Deleting, Renaming Files

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- Copying files:

- Syntax: `copy [filename.extension] [destination]`
- Example: `copy colors.bmp Presentations`

The above example does what?

- Example: `copy "Final Project Report.doc" a: \Reports`

The above example does what?

- You can also rename the file in the copy command:
  - `Copy "Five Year Plan.xls" "5 Year Plan.xls"`

## Deleting Files

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- **Syntax:** `del [filename.extension] /p`
- **Example:** `del colors.bmp /p`
- Only the file “`colors.bmp`” will be deleted and by using the `/p` switch, you will be asked if you want to delete the file or not.
- You can also use wildcards.
  - `Del *.bmp /p`
  - What does this command do?

## Renaming Files

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- Syntax:

`rename [drive:][path]filename1 filename2`  
or `ren [drive:][path]filename1 filename2`

Example: `ren Proposal.doc "Computer Training Proposal.doc"`

What does this command really do?

How do I rename file in other directories?

# Creating Directories

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- Syntax: `MD [drive:][path]directory name` (Note: you can also use `MKDIR`)
- Example: `md Stuff`
- You can also quickly change from one directory to the next.
- Syntax: `cd [drive:][path]directory name`
- Example: `cd d:windows\system`
- What does this command do?
- If you want to move to the root directory quickly, type `cd \`

## Removing Directories

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- Syntax: `rd [drive:][path]directory name`
- Example: `rd /s "new folder"`
- This command will delete the “`new folder`” but the switch `/s` will ask you if you want to do it.