

Re: Change file system on new HD?

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- *From:* Dave Royal <dave@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Paul J Gans wrote:

Dave Royal <dave@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

>

...I was surprised to find that the disk was FAT32, and the first thing XP did was reformat it to NTFS. Odd.

Not really. Disk areas are assigned by "cluster". The driver a file cluster by cluster. On average the last cluster is only half filled.

In FAT32 for various reasons, mostly addressibility, as the disk size grows, the cluster size grows. So on large disks (bigger than a few dozen gigabytes) the cluster size is enormous. Thus there is a HUGE amount of wasted space.

What I meant was: why wasn't the drive preformatted to NTFS – which is what I was expecting?

Dave

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(Remove any numerics from my email address.)

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