Flobo Hard Disk Repair
User guide

by Flobo Recovery

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Data Recovery as Art!

December 2009
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Table of contents

Introducing Flobo Hard Disk Repair…………………………………1
Flobo Hard Disk Repair Operation ………………………………………2
FAQ………………………………………………………………….13
License Agreement…………………………………………………………17
1. Introducing Flobo Hard Disk Repair

Flobo Hard Disk Repair is a program designed to repair hard disks damaged because of bad sectors.

Bad sectors are the sectors that cannot be accessed, read or write. As a result of bad sectors, the operating system is not able to access data. Consequently, operating system freezes when trying to read and copy data from your disk. When a hard drive is subject to this kind of errors, the disk basically cannot be used because a small amount of sectors (one or several dozens of total of 900 millions of sectors – in case of a 500 Gs HDD) that are faulty. The Flobo Hard Disk Repair can repair damaged hard disks without affecting or changing existing data.

One feature of the software is that you are able to check S.M.A.R.T. information. Modern hard disks support S.M.A.R.T. (Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology) that was specially developed to detect upcoming disk failures. The software informs you the current temperature of the hard disk – which is a very important factor in hard drive reliability, and the power-in-use hours of the hard disk – a very important issue in deciding of using or not a hard drive. Flobo Hard Disk Repair is able to predict possible failure, reading current state of various life-critical parameters describing a disk's reliability, and advice the user to backup data and replace hard disk.
2. Flobo Hard Disk Repair Operation

In order to perform hard disks repairing you need to follow the bellow mentioned steps.

**Step 1.** In the hard drives list you can find your installed hard disk drives. First step is to select the hard disk to be scanned as depicted bellow.
Step 2. In case you want to scan a particular region of the hard disk you are able to modify the value in the start sector and end sector text boxes. If you want to scan entire hard disk surface than you should let the default values.
Note

After selecting a disk drive, the temperature, the status calculated using S.M.A.R.T. details and timer counter (the power-in state hours) are displayed.
Step 3. After selecting the hard disk to be processed press scan.
**Note**

In case your hard disk S.M.A.R.T. information indicates bad health status you will be informed after pressing Scan button. You should backup data on this drive in this circumstance.
**Step 4.** You will be asked if you want to perform a scan & repair operation or to perform regeneration of entire hard disk surface. The scan and repair operation is faster, but is not able all the time to repair instable sectors while generate all surface allows regeneration of all hard disk surface.
Note

In case you want to stop the current scanning process, you should press stop button.
Note

You will be asked to confirm if you want to stop the process.
Note

Also you will be asked if you want to save session, in order to re-start later the process from the current state.
If you want to save the current session press yes.
**Step 6.** After entire hard disk surface is scanned it is displayed the results of the scanning.
Note

Open session button allows selecting a previously selected session.
Frequently asked questions

1. **This program deletes or overwrites all the data on the hard drive?**

No, the program does not delete, or rewrite data on the hard drive. The data will remain on the disk.

2. **The program deletes partition?**

No, the program does not delete partition.

3. **The program is able to regenerate partition that are not recognize by windows?**

Yes, as previously stated, the program is accessing the hard at low level communication and is not concerning the way the data is managed on hard disk drive.

4. **The program is able to regenerate IDE or SCSI or SATA hard disks?**

The software is able to handle all disk interfaces.

5. **The program is able to repair hard disk that cannot be recognized by BIOS?**

No, in this case the software is not able to repair the hard disk.

6. **The program is able to repair the hard disk if there is a mechanical problem?**

No, in this case the software is not able to repair the hard disk.

7. **The program is able to repair all bad sectors?**

No, in case of physical bad sectors caused, for instance, by shock, the program is not able to repair the surface.

8. **How much last the standard scan?**

Bellow you can find approximate figures for different hard disk drives capacities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500 G</td>
<td>19 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 G</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9. How much last the “regenerate-all-surface” procedure?

Below you can find approximate figures for different hard disk drives capacities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500 G</td>
<td>130 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 G</td>
<td>70 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Am I able to restart the scanning process from the current sector?

Yes, you must press yes when asked to save the session and next time you want to re-start the process select open session and select the previously saved file.

11. Can I scan the current hard disk drive from the same hard disk drive where the operating system is running?

Yes, you can do that, but you will notice a slow responsiveness of the operating system.

12. My scan is showing 20 hours remaining, though initially it was displayed 12 hours, what happened?

In case of encountering bad sectors the scanning will last longer.

13. The program is “freezing” time to time. What is happening?

The program is trying to repair the bad sectors and the hard disk is responding with huge delay. After repairing or bypassing the bad sectors you will be able to access the interface.

14. I am listening music while scanning the hard disk. Time to time the music is interrupted. What is happening?

The program is accessing bad sectors and the operating system encounters time delay in executing programs.

15. I am scanning the same hard disk where windows is running. At a certain time all operating system freezes. What is the problem?

It seems that same of the files of the operating system are placed on hard disk region with bad sectors. Because of the supplementary hard disk accessing of the software, the operating system is not able to handle that delay/error and it freezes or even restart. We recommend scanning the hard disk (where the operating system is installed) as a slave.
16. The program is warning me that the hard disk temperature is too high. Is something wrong to use it? – Though is working without problem?

The long term using of a hard disk in temperature above 50 Celsius will lead to failure (because of the mechanical parts that are affected by the temperature). We do recommend a running temperature of about 35 Celsius degrees. In case of high temperature you need to install a supplementary fan on your case, or even check if not some of the fans failed.

17. Your program is displaying two hard disk while in windows explorer I cannot see another partition from the second hard drive. The second hard disk is failed?

No, the hard disk is not failed, if you are not bale to see any partition in windows explorer means that there is unpartitioned space, non-windows partition or corrupt partitions on the mentioned hard disk.

18. Is this program able to recover data on hard disk?

No, this program is not data recovery software. However helps recover data because repairs bad sector and other file – recovery software will be able to access data.

19. My hard drive is not spinning ( I can feel by touch it that there is no vibrations). Is this software able to repair it?

No. See 6.

20. My computer is restarting continuously. Is this caused by the bad sectors on hard drive?

One of the cause of restraint operating system is that the operating system is trying to access its own files that are corrupt because are located in a bad sector region on hard disk. However, the causes for restarting computer are multiple. You first check if the power source is not faulty, or the memory is not dirty. Also the fluctuation of power might lead to the continuous restarting ( by using a UPC – uninterruptible power source – you can solve the problem).

21. Is this program able to repair memory stick or SSD hard disk drives?

No, is not.

22. Some of my hard disks have different S.M.A.R.T. details than the others. Is something wrong?

No, each hard disk drive manufacturer and model might have different S.M.A.R.T. attributes.
23. My hard disk drive has 2000 hours of power-in-time, is that much, do I need to replace it?

Though the MTBF (Mean Time Before Failure) of a hard disk drive as provided by manufacturer is about 1 mil hours, this is a huge limit. 40 000 hours is usually a limit for a user to change the hard disk drive.

24. The software indicates that I should backup data and replace hard disk as the S.M.A.R.T. details indicates faulty parameter. However the hard disk drives works without any problem. What is the problem?

The S.M.A.R.T. details indicates wrong value and that means that on long term the hard disk will likely to fall. You should backup data on the hard disk.

25. Can I work on the same computer while the program is scanning the hard disk?

Yes, there is no problem working in the same when scanning a hard disk drive. However see 15

26. If for instance the program repairs, let’s say 3 sectors, the data on this sectors will be recovered?

No, the data on the repaired sectors might not be recovered.

27. I found on the internet some solutions to repair the hard disk drive such as: hit the drive, put it in refrigerator, etc. These are correct?

Never do that. In case you are not able to access data because the hard disk is not detected by BIOS you should contact a professional data recovery expert.

28. I noticed that the remaining time is not correct. What is wrong?

The remaining time is an estimated time, several issues, such as varying speed with higher LBA sector, bad sectors on the disk drive, does not allow calculating exactly the time remaining.
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