How to fix the Disk I / O error in Windows

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How long have you taken offline backups of your important files? Once a month? or once a year? Do you regularly check those backups? Some people perform these backup checks by connecting an external drive to the computer and an I / O device error occurs. This article will show you how to fix I / O device errors without losing any files during the process.

What is an I / O device error?

Error Input / Output device is quite common error. They often appear in hardware errors such as broken cables, input or output storage devices that have errors or misconfigured drivers. Therefore, there are many ways to fix I / O device errors, most of the ways below are easy to implement.

Before starting, you should reboot the system and try again, if it still doesn't fix the problem, keep trying the following methods.

1. 6 ways to restart Windows really "pro"

1. Cable

The first thing to do is just adjust the cable. Re-plug the cable that connects the external drive to the computer. Do this at both ends. If you are using a USB flash drive, try disconnecting and plugging it back in. If still not working, use another USB cable and connect the cable to another external device and connect to your system. If it works, you'll know this cable is good.

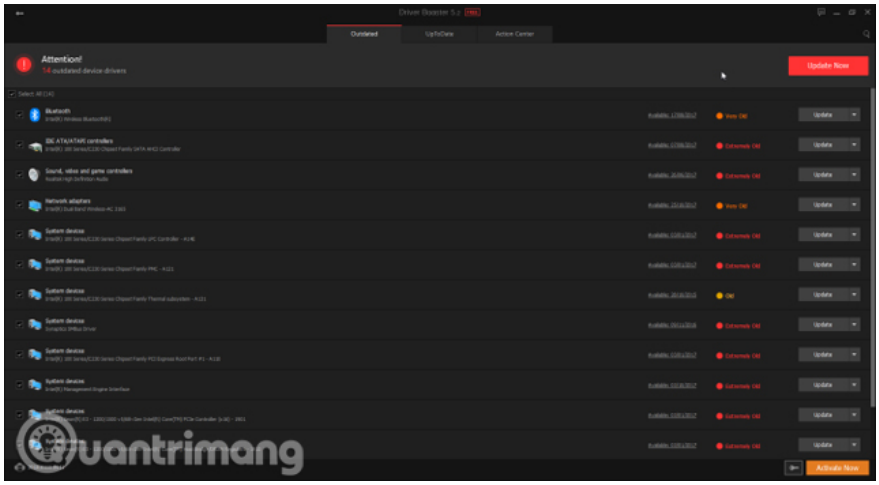
1. Distinguish 10 types of popular computer cables

2. USB port

If the cable is good, but you still can't fix the problem, try another USB port. Most modern systems have multiple USB ports because many devices rely on USB connections. Also, check the USB port, if there is dirt, gently blow to remove any dirt and then try again.

3. Driver

A basic but easily overlooked error when fixing I / O errors is to update drivers on the system. Windows 10 regularly updates all drivers. But this constant upgrade problem worries many users when Microsoft releases Windows 10. In theory, a system that is constantly updating drivers is great and you will never have driver problems.



However, sometimes this continuous update system does not work. Therefore, users should use a driver update program like IOBit Driver Booster. Download and install Driver Booster (make sure to uninstall the McAfee Antivirus button), then scan the system to update the driver. You might be surprised if the program finds many expired drivers. Update the driver and retry the external hard drive.

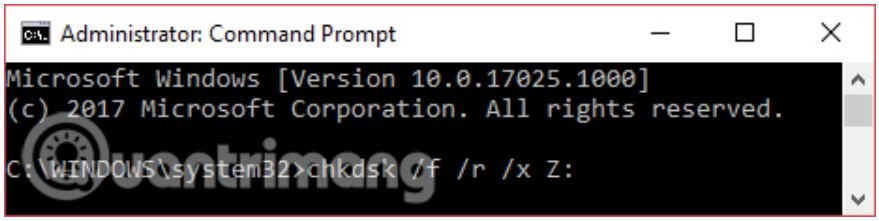
4. Chkdsk

Although I / O device errors are mostly hardware related, you can use the system integration tool to troubleshoot. Chkdsk tool verifies and fixes file systems.

1. Check and fix hard drive errors with CMD on Windows

Press **Windows Key + X** to open the **Quick Access** menu, then select **Command Prompt** (admin). If the system doesn't use Command Prompt, replace it with PowerShell, just search in the Start Menu menu, then right-click and choose **Run as administrator.**

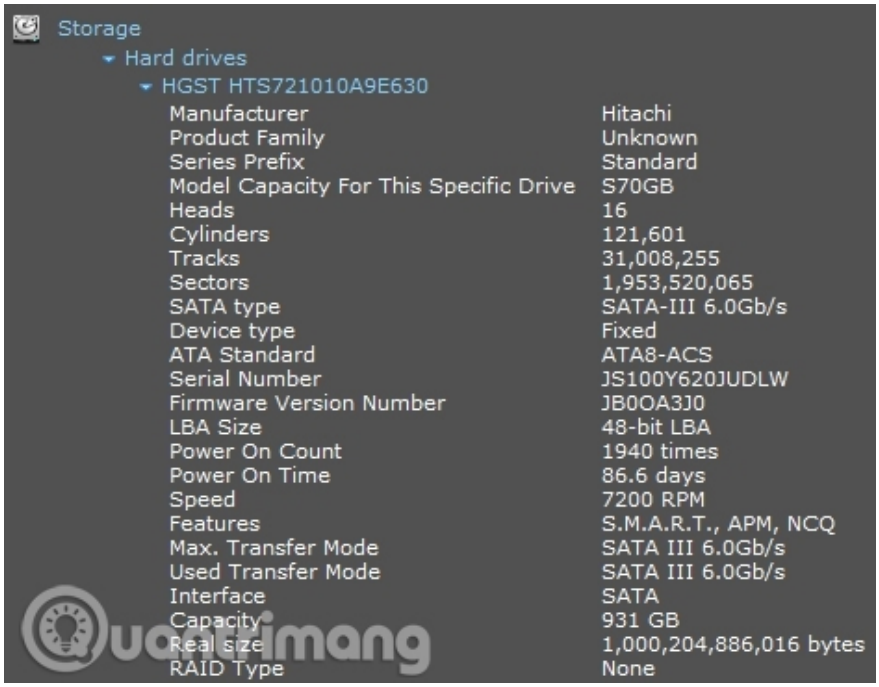
Next, enter **chkdsk / f / r / x [your drive letter here]** and press **Enter** . Scanning can take a while, especially if there are many sectors to fix.



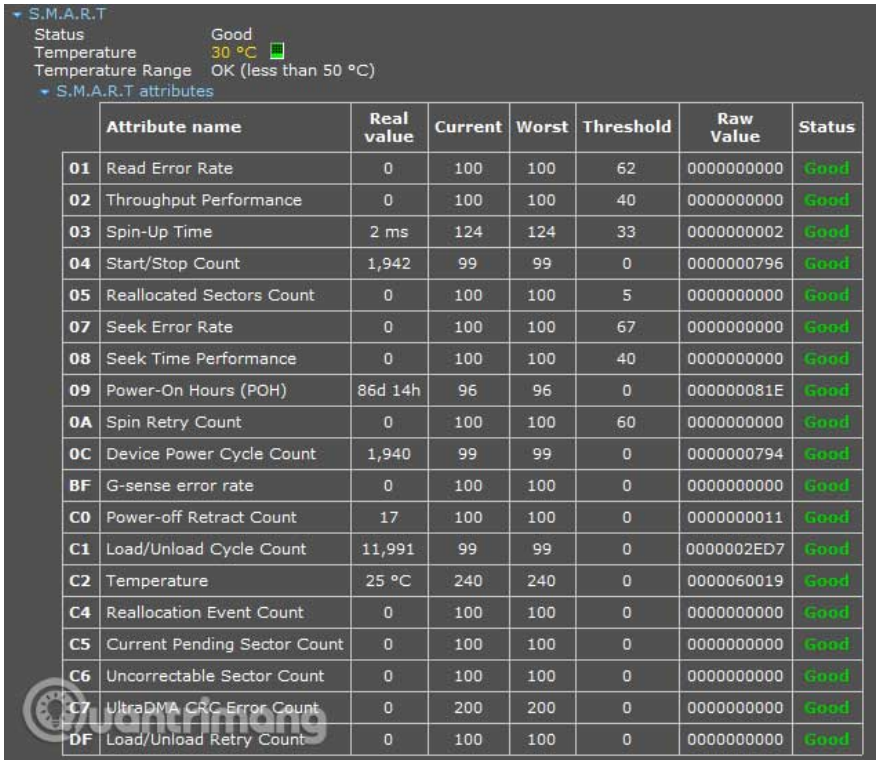
Note, this tool will not fix some types of corrupted drives.

5. Use Speccy to check the health of the drive

If these two ways don't work, you should check the overall health of the drive using the free system specification program, Speccy. Download and install Speccy. In the left column, select **Storage** and scroll down to find the corresponding drive.



Below the drive specification is the SMART attribute table.



S.M.A.R.T
Status Good
Temperature 30 °C
Temperature Range OK (less than 50 °C)
S.M.A.R.T attributes

	Attribute name	Real value	Current	Worst	Threshold	Raw Value	Status
01	Read Error Rate	0	100	100	62	0000000000	Good
02	Throughput Performance	0	100	100	40	0000000000	Good
03	Spin-Up Time	2 ms	124	124	33	0000000002	Good
04	Start/Stop Count	1,942	99	99	0	0000000796	Good
05	Reallocated Sectors Count	0	100	100	5	0000000000	Good
07	Seek Error Rate	0	100	100	67	0000000000	Good
08	Seek Time Performance	0	100	100	40	0000000000	Good
09	Power-On Hours (POH)	86d 14h	96	96	0	000000081E	Good
0A	Spin Retry Count	0	100	100	60	0000000000	Good
0C	Device Power Cycle Count	1,940	99	99	0	0000000794	Good
BF	G-sense error rate	0	100	100	0	0000000000	Good
C0	Power-off Retract Count	17	100	100	0	0000000011	Good
C1	Load/Unload Cycle Count	11,991	99	99	0	0000002ED7	Good
C2	Temperature	25 °C	240	240	0	0000060019	Good
C4	Reallocation Event Count	0	100	100	0	0000000000	Good
C5	Current Pending Sector Count	0	100	100	0	0000000000	Good
C6	Uncorrectable Sector Count	0	100	100	0	0000000000	Good
C7	UltraDMA CRC Error Count	0	200	200	0	0000000000	Good
DF	Load/Unload Retry Count	0	100	100	0	0000000000	Good

SMART stands for Self-Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Technology (Automatic monitoring, diagnostic and reporting technology). Integrated hard drive monitoring system reports on various hard drive health attributes. Speccy evaluates each of the different monitoring measures. You should care about the following data:

1. 05: Reallocated Sectors Count
2. 0A: Spin Retry Account
3. C4: Reallocation Event Count
4. C5: Current Pending Sector Count
5. C6: Uncorrectable Sector Count

A Google study found that within 60 days after a drive failure could not be adjusted, the drive had an average error of 39 times that of a similar hard drive without errors. Google's research also concluded that SMART ratings are useful in predicting drive errors. If you see any of the above figures showing errors (or many different errors on many indicators), you should seriously consider backing up everything and replacing the drive.

See more:

1. Fix some common computer errors - Part 1
2. Decode common computer error messages
3. Summary of some ways to fix USB Device Not Recognized on Windows 7, 8 and 10

You finished reading the article "**How to fix the Disk I / O error in Windows**" edited by the **TipsMake** team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.