

How to partition a hard drive in Windows 11, 10, 8, and 7 without losing data.

Partitioning your hard drive on Windows 11, 10, 8, and 7 allows you to split a large drive into smaller drives for different tasks and data storage. If you don't know how to partition your hard drive on Windows to avoid data loss, you can refer to the instructions below and apply them.

Typically, when a computer or laptop is purchased new, the first thing a user needs to do is re-partition the hard drive for different purposes. Some manufacturers may pre-partition the drive for users, but many do not, especially with laptops that don't come with a licensed copy of Windows, so users will need to partition the hard drive themselves.



Guide to partitioning hard drives in Windows 10, 8, and 7; splitting and merging drives without losing data.

Currently, there are many software programs that support users in partitioning hard drives on Windows. However, many users are unaware that Microsoft itself provides a tool called Disk Management, which helps users manage their hard drives more easily. Users can quickly, safely, and conveniently split and merge hard drive partitions using the Disk Management feature in Windows without needing any additional software. This article will guide you on how to use this tool effectively.

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How to partition a hard drive on Windows

1. How to partition a hard drive on Windows 11

Windows 11 is one of the newest operating systems widely released in early October 2021. After installing Windows 11, users will experience new interface changes in this version. Therefore, the method of partitioning hard drives on Windows 11 also has many changes, causing users to struggle and not know how to handle it. However, with the guide below on partitioning hard drives on Windows 11 computers without losing data, you will easily be able to do it successfully.

2. How to partition a hard drive on a Windows 10 computer

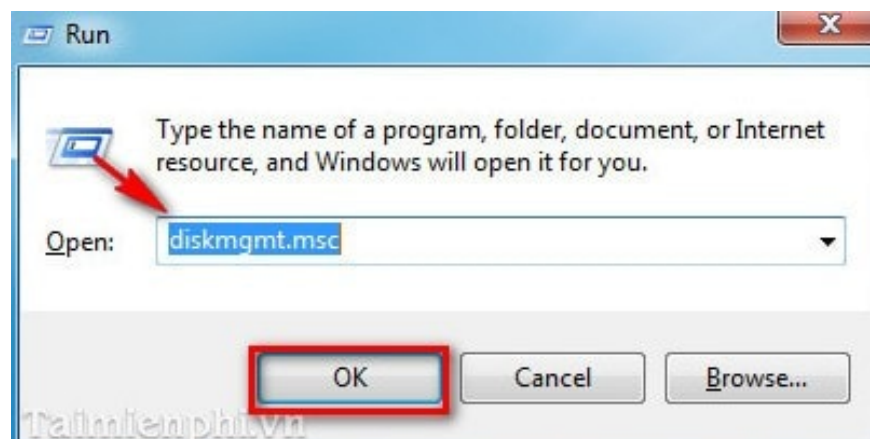
By partitioning data and dividing the hard drive on a Windows 10 computer, users can better organize data storage, optimizing the use of available memory on the computer.

3. How to partition a hard drive on Windows 8

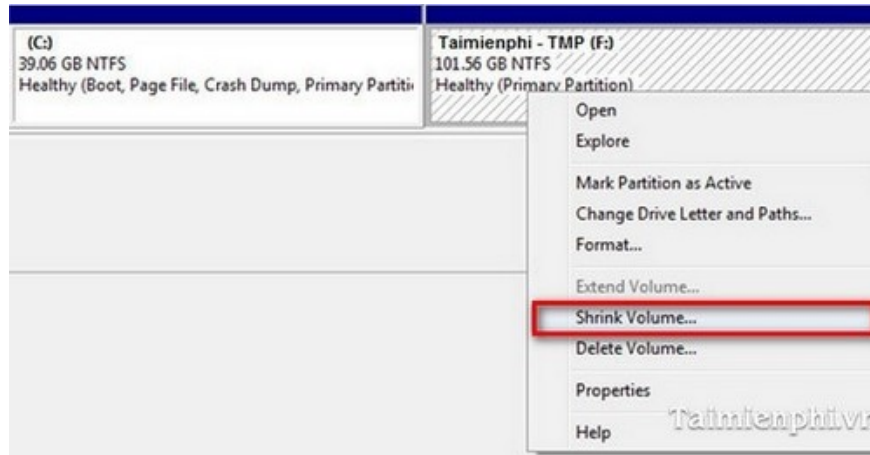
To partition a hard drive on Windows 8, you need to access Windows Disk Management to create a new partition. This is the most commonly used and popular method, instead of using third-party partitioning software. To apply this method, you can refer to the instructions in the article below.

4. How to partition a hard drive in Windows 7

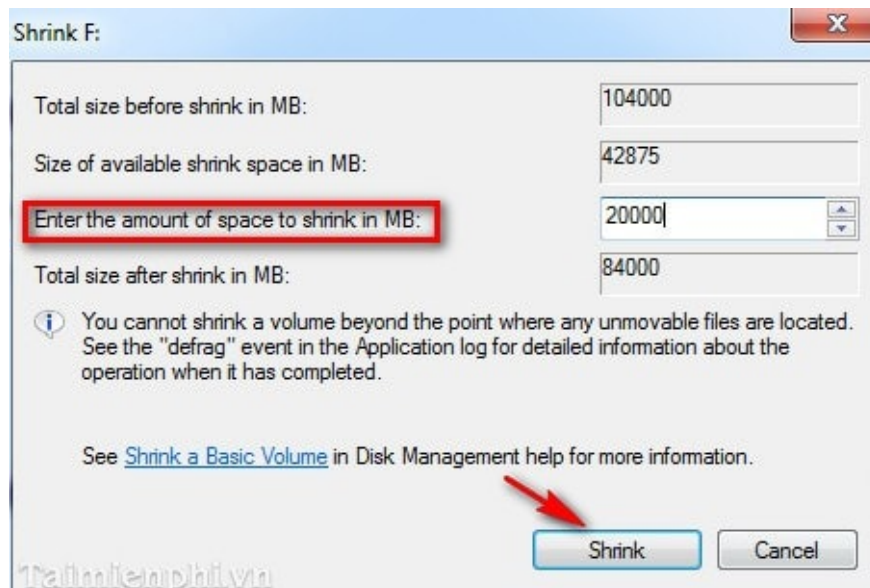
Step 1 : Access **Disk Management** by pressing the **Windows + R** key combination , then type '**diskmgmt.msc**' and press **OK**.



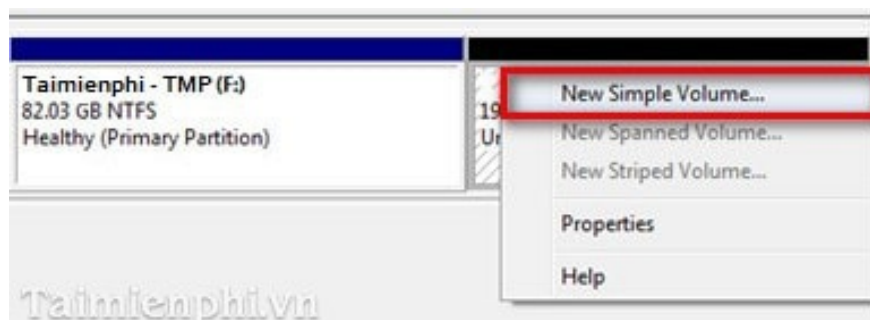
Step 2 : A new window will appear. To reduce the hard drive capacity and partition it, right-click on the drive you want to partition and select **Shrink Volume**.



Step 3 : Wait a moment, a new window will appear. Here, enter the amount of space you want to shrink from the selected partition in the " **Enter the amount of space to shrink in MB**" box , then click **Shrink**.



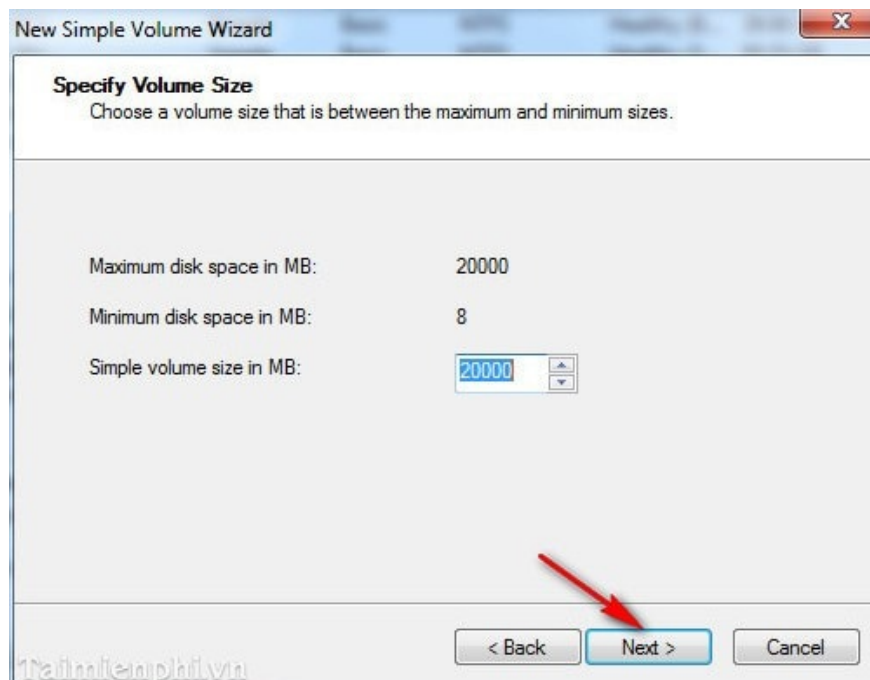
Step 4 : Once the process is complete, a new drive will appear. Right-click on that partition and select **New Simple Volume**.



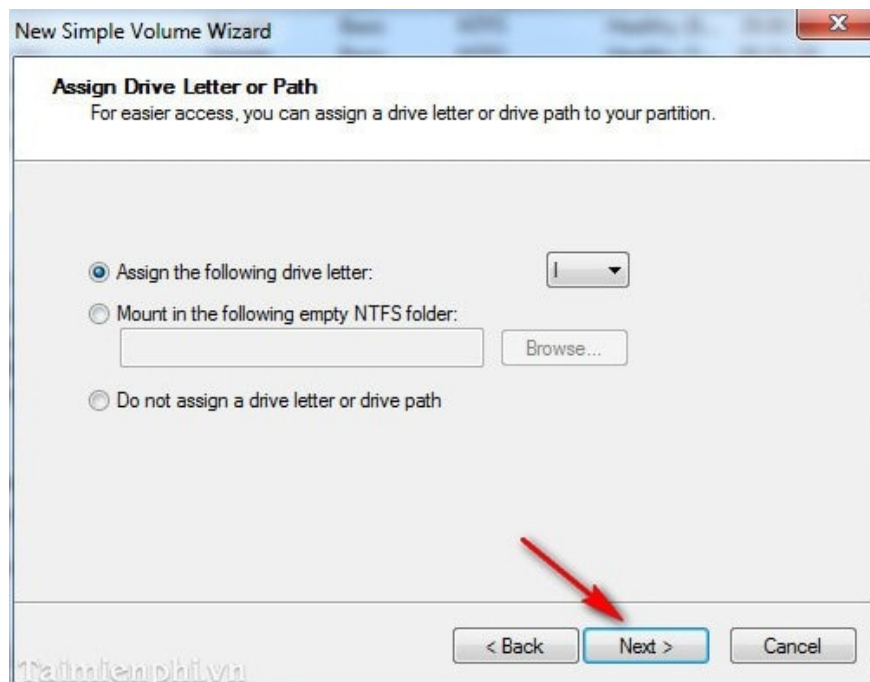
- A dialog box will appear; click **Next**.



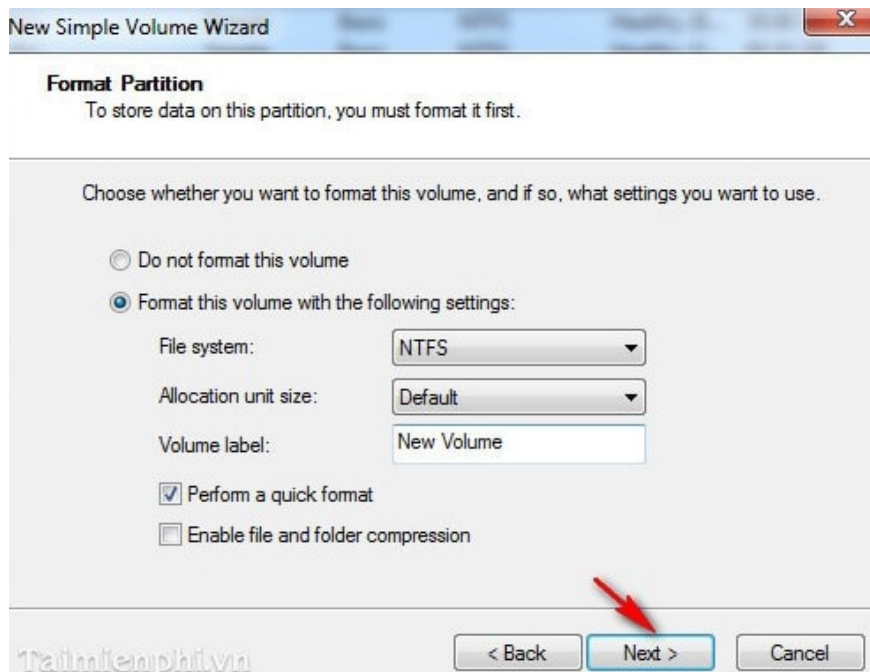
- Next, press **Next**



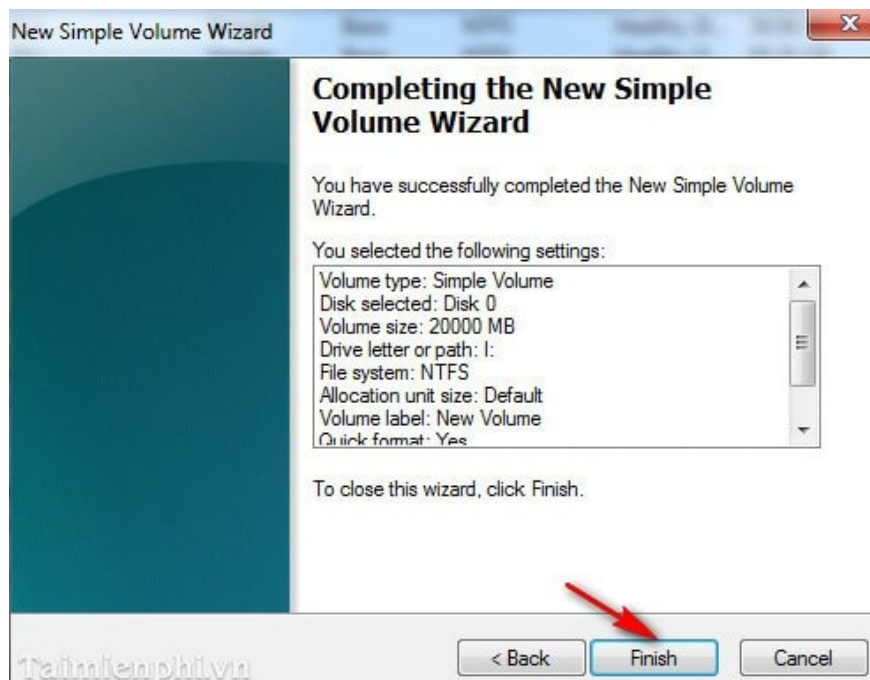
Here, you can select the drive letter in the "**Assign the Following driver letter**" section , then click **Next**.



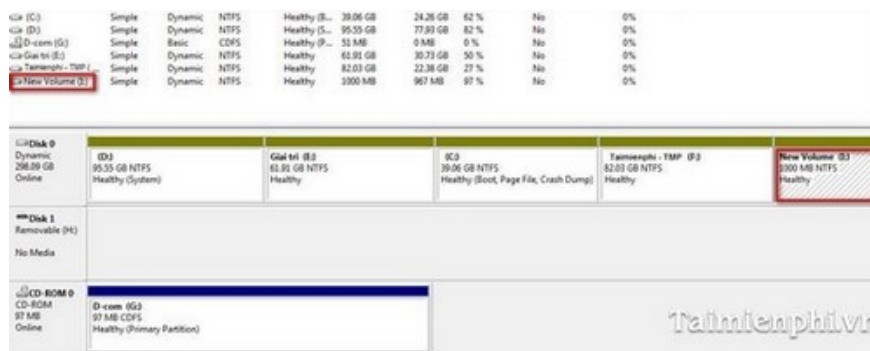
- Select the drive format and name in **the File System and Volume label** sections , then click **Next**.



- Once the process is complete, click **Finish**.



A new drive will appear.



Within the scope of this article, we have just guided you on how to partition a hard drive on Windows 7 using Disk Management, a very useful utility that helps to split and merge hard drives without losing data. You can perform the same steps on Windows 8/8.1 or Windows 10. Additionally, during the Windows installation process, and especially on Windows 7, you can also partition the hard drive directly through the Windows installation interface. Specifically, we have already discussed this in detail in our article on **creating partitions during Windows 7 installation ; please refer to it for more information.**

If you are a beginner and not very familiar with computers, instead of installing Windows, you can choose another method: Ghosting Windows 7. Ghosting Windows 7 is quite simple, allowing you to reinstall a new operating system on your computer. Therefore, the guide on **how to ghost Windows 7** using USB, OneKey, and Norton Ghost that Taimienphi previously shared will likely help you easily perform this task. Please read on.

You finished reading the article "**How to partition a hard drive in Windows 11, 10, 8, and 7 without losing data.**" 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.

