

How to recover lost partitions with TestDisk

TestDisk is a software that recovers lost partitions and recovers lost data.

In case the computer partition is lost, it can be caused by a virus infection, operation error when re-dividing the computer drive, etc. When a partition of the drive is lost, it means the entire volume News and folders will also disappear. If the user is experiencing the above situation, he / she can use the TestDisk software, retrieve the lost partition and the data disappears in that partition.

The TestDisk in addition to retrieving lost partitions can also rebuild missing boot components on Windows, fix partition tables, etc. The following article will guide you how to use the tool. TestDisk retrieves the lost partitions on the computer.

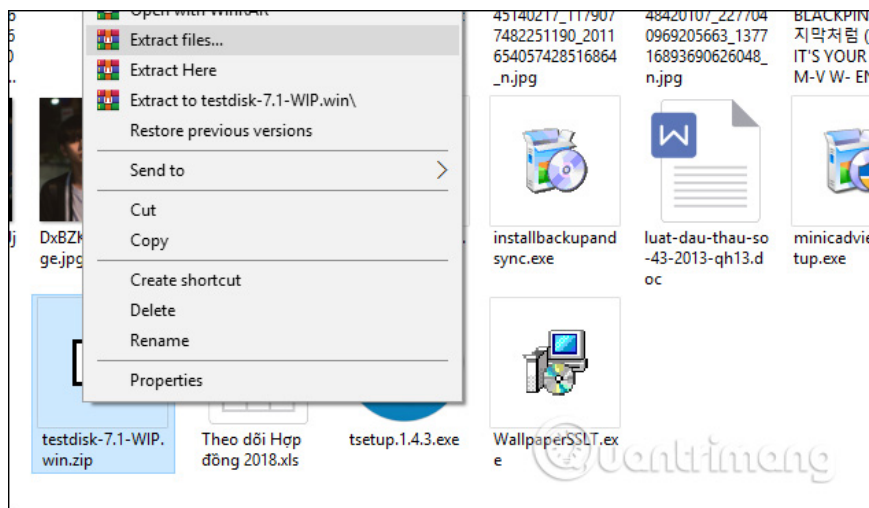
1. How to use Recovrit to recover data on your computer
2. Recover lost data on SSD
3. How to recover data from "Ghost" hard drive (or image) error / mistake

Instructions to retrieve the partition using TestDisk

Step 1:

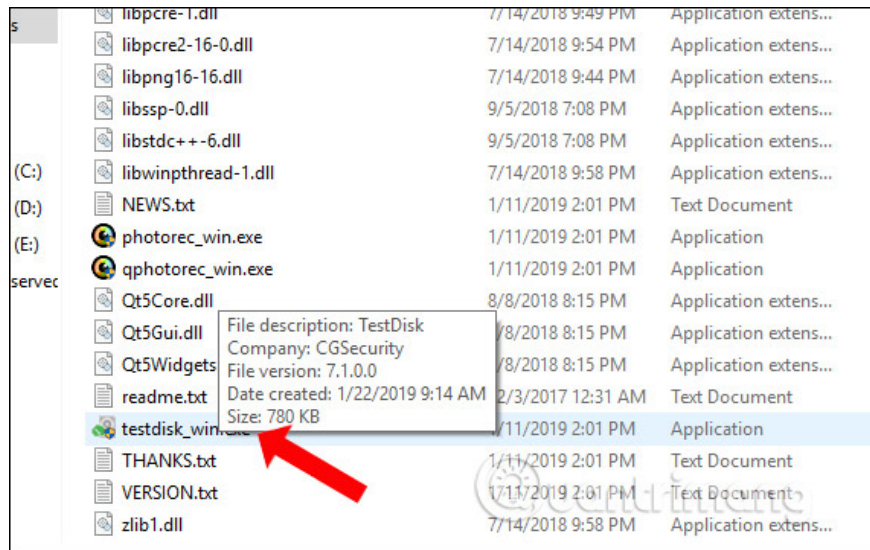
Users click on the link below to download the TestDisk zip file to the computer. Next, extract the file.

1. Download the TestDisk software



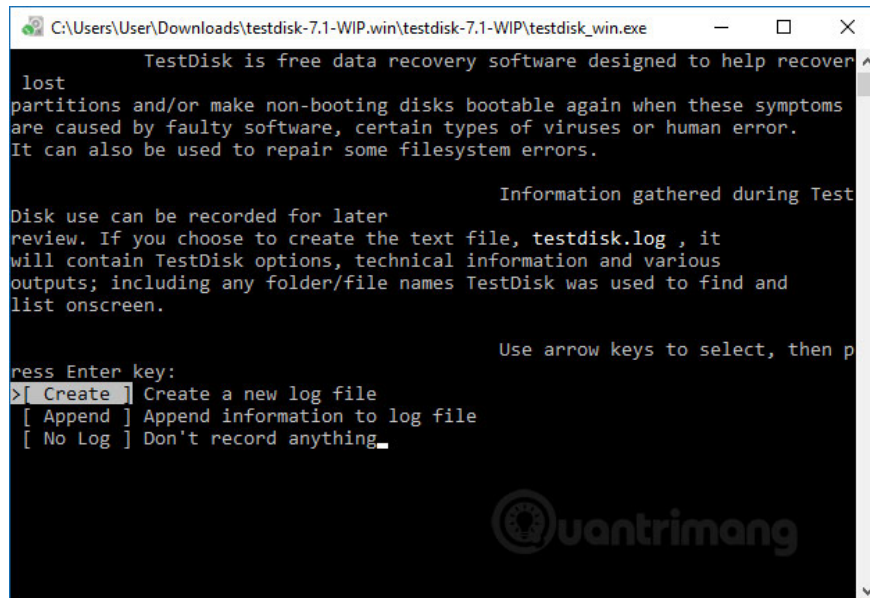
Step 2:

In the directory unzip the user click on **the file testdisk_win.exe** to start TestDisk.



Step 3:

Display the command line input dialog interface. We use the arrow to move to the **Create a new log file** option and press Enter.



In the display interface immediately after that will appear a list of partitions in the drive, including lost or hidden partitions, connected devices such as DVD / CD, USB drives. Move to **the lost partition** and press the Enter key.

```
C:\Users\User\Downloads\testdisk-7.1-WIP.win\testdisk-7.1-WIP\testdisk_win.exe
TestDisk 7.1-WIP, Data Recovery Utility, December 2018
Christophe GRENIER <grenier@cgsecurity.org>
https://www.cgsecurity.org

TestDisk is free software, and
comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.

Select a media (use Arrow keys, then press Enter):
>Disk /dev/sda - 500 GB / 465 GiB - ST500LT012-1DG142

>[Proceed] [Quit]
```

Note: Disk capacity must be correctly detected for a successful recovery. If a disk listed above has an incorrect size, check HD jumper settings and detection, and install the latest OS patches and disk drivers.

Step 4:

In the list view of the partition formats listed by TestDisk, **click Intel** and press Enter. If your computer uses EFI GPT, click on EFI GPT.

```
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Disk /dev/sda - 500 GB / 465 GiB - ST500LT012-1DG142

Please select the partition table type, press Enter when done.
>[Intel] Intel/PC partition
[EFI GPT] EFI GPT partition map (Mac i386, some x86_64...)
[Humax ] Humax partition table
[Mac ] Apple partition map (legacy)
[None ] Non partitioned media
[Sun ] Sun Solaris partition
[XBox ] Xbox partition
[Return] Return to disk selection

Hint: Intel partition table type has been detected.
Note: Do NOT select 'None' for media with only a single partition. It's ve
rare for a disk to be 'Non-partitioned'.
```

Step 5:

In the new list, click on **Analyze** and press Enter.

```

C:\Users\User\Downloads\testdisk-7.1-WIP.win\testdisk-7.1-WIP\testdisk_win.exe
TestDisk 7.1-WIP, Data Recovery Utility, December 2018
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Disk /dev/sda - 500 GB / 465 GiB - ST500LT012-1DG142
CHS 60801 255 63 - sector size=512

> [Analyse] Analyze current partition structure and search for lost partiti
[Advanced] Filesystem Utils
[Geometry] Change disk geometry
[Options] Modify options
[MBR Code] Write TestDisk MBR code to first sector
[Delete] Delete all data in the partition table
[Quit] Return to disk selection

Note: Correct disk geometry is required for a successful recovery. 'Analyse'
process may give some warnings if it thinks the logical geometry is mismatch
ed.

```

The tool then proceeds to scan the drive to find the data in the hidden partition. This process depends on the size of the drive on the computer, which is fast or slow. As a result we will have the list that TestDisk found. In case the search partition does not display in this list, click **Quick Search** and press Enter.

```

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Disk /dev/sda - 500 GB / 465 GiB - CHS 60801 255 63
Current partition structure:
Partition          Start          End          Size in sectors
1 * HPFS - NTFS    0 32 33 44 190 18 716800 [System Res
er 2 P HPFS - NTFS 44 190 19 12748 86 10 204083200
3 P HPFS - NTFS    12748 86 11 38244 193 29 409600000
4 P HPFS - NTFS    38244 193 30 60801 47 46 362369024

*=Primary bootable P=Primary L=Logical E=Extended D=Deleted
> [Quick Search] [Backup]
Try to locate partition_

```

The tool then checks to quickly list the broken or missing partition. The result of finding the lost partition, click on the partition to be restored and press the letter A into the interface, press the Enter key to proceed with the recovery process.

```
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Disk /dev/sda - 500 GB / 465 GiB - CHS 60801 255 63
Partition                Start          End          Size in sectors
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D HPFS - NTFS            44 190 19 12748 86 10 204083200
D HPFS - NTFS            12748 86 11 38244 193 29 409600000
D HPFS - NTFS            38244 193 30 60801 47 46 362369024

Structure: Ok.  Use Up/Down Arrow keys to select partition.
Use Left/Right Arrow keys to CHANGE partition characteristics:
*=Primary bootable P=Primary L=Logical E=Extended D=Deleted
Keys A: add partition, L: load backup, T: change type, P: list files,
Enter: to continue
NTFS, blocksize=4096, 367 MB / 350 MiB
```

Step 6:

Besides being able to recover a lost partition, we can retrieve the data in that partition. We perform the steps as above, but to the screen below, click on **Advanced**, instead of clicking Analyze when searching for partitions.

The results show that the data has been deleted on the partition, move to the data and press the C key to restore.

```
C:\Users\User\Downloads\testdisk-7.1-WIP.win\testdisk-7.1-WIP\testdisk_win.exe
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Disk /dev/sda - 500 GB / 465 GiB - ST500LT012-1DG142
CHS 60801 255 63 - sector size=512

[ Analyse ] Analyse current partition structure and search for lost pa
> [ Advanced ] Filesystem Utils
[ Geometry ] Change disk geometry
[ Options ] Modify options
[ MBR Code ] Write TestDisk MBR code to first sector
[ Delete ] Delete all data in the partition table
[ Quit ] Return to disk selection

Note: Correct disk geometry is required for a successful recovery. 'Anap
```

You can also use software that can restore partitions such as Active Partition Recovery or Easeus Partition Master Professional.

Losing partitions definitely affects users and the use of TestDisk, as well as partition recovery software, is essential. Also if the data on the computer is lost, data recovery tools such as Easeus Data Recovery Wizard, or Recuva can also be used.

See more:

1. How to recover data on iPhone?
2. How to backup and restore data on Windows Live Mail?
3. Ultra-fast data recovery solution

I wish you all success!

You finished reading the article "**How to recover lost partitions with TestDisk**" 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.
