

This is how to 'recover' a failed USB drive on Linux

Often users use USB drives to store data securely. However in some cases the USB drive may be faulty or simply not work. If you are using a Linux operating system and you have a similar error on the USB drive, then you can use the commands to restore the USB drive.

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1. Remove the error files on the USB drive with fsck

The easiest way to recover a USB drive is to use the **fsck** tool. This is a great tool for removing corrupted files, and often these error files are the cause of the error.

To remove the error files on the USB drive, first open the **terminal** window and then enter the following command into: **Lsblk**

Note :

The user must find out what the **USB** drive name is on the system before proceeding. To do this enter the **lsblk** command, and the command will list all the drives on your system.

The **lsblk** command will list all the drives on the system, not just the USB drive, so you need to pay attention to output so that you don't mistake the hard drive name for the USB drive.

```
fish /home/derrick
fish /home/derrick 72x21
derrick@Arch-Linux-Desktop -> lsblk
NAME      MAJ:MIN RM   SIZE RO TYPE MOUNTPOINT
sda        8:0    0 298.1G  0 disk
├─sda1     8:1    0   450M  0 part
├─sda2     8:2    0   100M  0 part
├─sda3     8:3    0    16M  0 part
├─sda4     8:4    0 297.6G  0 part
sdb        8:16   0 931.5G  0 disk
├─sdb1     8:17   0   512M  0 part /boot
├─sdb2     8:18   0   931G  0 part /
└─sdc      8:32   1    7.6G  0 disk
   └─sdc1   8:33   1    7.6G  0 part
```

To remove all corrupted files, run the fsck command on a specific partition (for example, / dev / sdc1) or on the entire drive (eg / dev / sdc).

Once completed, the USB drive will partition new and work on Linux: **sudo fsck / dev / sdc1**

Note :

In this example, assume the **USB drive is / dev / sdc** (or / dev / sdc1). Users can use other names for their USB drives on the system.

```
usage: fsck.vfat [-aAbflrtvVwy] [-d path -d ...] [-u path -u ...]
           device
-a         automatically repair the filesystem
-A         toggle Atari filesystem format
-b         make read-only boot sector check
-c N      use DOS codepage N to decode short file names (default: 437)
-d path   drop that file
-f         salvage unused chains to files
-l         list path names
-n         no-op, check non-interactively without changing
-p         same as -a, for compat with other *fsck
-r         interactively repair the filesystem (default)
-t         test for bad clusters
-u path   try to undelete that (non-directory) file
-v         verbose mode
-V         perform a verification pass
-w         write changes to disk immediately
-y         same as -a, for compat with other *fsck
```

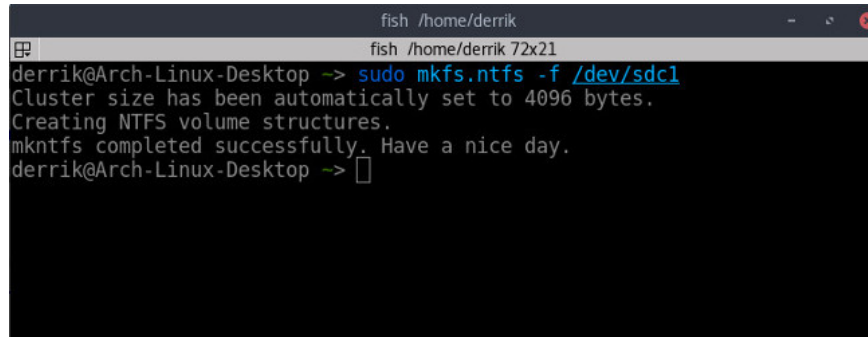
2. Completely "clean" the USB drive

Sometimes the USB drive may not be able to read the data stored in it. If this happens, it is best to adjust the data to 'zero' and start again. The best tool to use in this case is **dd** .

First find the USB drive name using the lsblk command (**note** that / dev / sdc1 is a **partition** and / dev / sdc is the **entire device**).

sudo dd if = / dev / zero of = / dev / sdc

3. Create a new system file



```
fish /home/derrick
fish /home/derrick 72x21
derrick@Arch-Linux-Desktop -> sudo mkfs.ntfs -f /dev/sdc1
Cluster size has been automatically set to 4096 bytes.
Creating NTFS volume structures.
mkntfs completed successfully. Have a nice day.
derrick@Arch-Linux-Desktop -> □
```

After cleaning up the **USB** drive, the data on it will be completely useless, no longer valid. This means you will have to create a new data partition. Select a system file and run the command:

1. Fat32:
2. `sudo mkfs.msdos -f 32 / dev / sdc1`
3. Ext4:
4. `sudo mkfs.ext4 -f / dev / sdc1`
5. NTFS:
6. `sudo mkfs.ntfs -f / dev / sdc1`

Refer to some more articles below:

1. Protect your Google account with USB "security key"
1. Summary of some ways to fix USB Device Not Recognized on Windows 7, 8 and 10
1. Want to know if your computer supports USB 3.0, read this article

Good luck!

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