

## Re: Replace Hard Drive After 3.5 Years?

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.repair/2005-03/1531.html>

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**Date:** 03/20/05

Date: Sun, 20 Mar 2005 18:07:02 +0800

"James Sweet" <jamessweet@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:Yc9%d.9706\$GI6.6804@trnddc05...

>

> "Elle" <elle\_navorski@earthlink.net> wrote in message

> news:eM5%d.15965\$qf2.14393@newsread2.news.atl.earthlink.net...

>> *I walked away from my computer for a couple of hours, tops, yesterday. I*

>> *came back to it and the display and mouse were frozen.*

>>

>> *It's a 3.5 year old personal computer (Gateway, with a 20 Gigabyte, 5M*

> *Ultra*

>> *ATA hard drive). I ended up powering down, when starting up received  
error*

>> *messages and then a failure to reach the Windows display. I ultimately*

>> *struggled through a Scandisk from a Dos prompt and was able to recover*

>> *most, but not all, my personal files, copying them to floppy diskettes*

> *(3.5*

>> *inch type). I shoulda been backing up at least once a month, but wasn't.*

>> *Anyone else procrastinating: Man, don't do it. Stop now. Back up your*

> *files.*

>>

>> *A tech support person at Gateway said hard drives don't usually last*

> *beyond*

>> *five years. Some die at three years. I've found support on Usenet for*

> *this.*

>>

>> *My computer's running again, but to thwart another massive crash, is it*

>> *worth putting in a new hard drive? I've got \$80 to spend, and I figure a*

>> *nice one will run about that.*

>>

>> *I installed a new power supply (that is, transformer) last summer. It's*

>> *power and so heat output aren't that different from the old one. It*

seems

> *to*

>> *be working out fine. Otherwise, all else is original equipment.*

>>

>> *My last computer was a Hewlett Packard. It "died" irrecoverably after*

only

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> > *three years. The shop couldn't fix it, though maybe I took it to a lousy  
> > shop. So this is very discouraging. Throwing away \$800 every three years  
> > ain't gonna cut it anymore. So I've had it with these big brand names.*

I'm

> > *ready to build my own, and think at this point I have enough expertise  
to*

> *do*

> > *so. I'm certainly not going to throw money away on a shop trying to fix  
my*

> > *computer again. It seems to me much of the expertise involved in a*

> > *successful computer repair involves simply patience and persistence.*

> >

> > *How about the CPU? Should I investigate replacing it, too?*

> >

> > *All suggestions about whether a new hard drive is worth the investment  
and*

> > *the CPU are welcome.*

> >

> > *TIA*

> >

> >

>

>

> *Hard drives are second only to optical drives in how often they tend to  
> fail. The disk drives being fragile mechanical components are virtually  
> always the first thing to go, 3-5 years is typical for one that's been  
> heavily used.*

>

>

Regardless of the equipment, if ya doing something that ya don't want to do  
again, or its data thats not replaceable ya have to back it up a couple of  
times. Keep a copy of site too !

Just dont be lazy then we wont have to hear yet another "Oh dear I havent  
backed up and now I want to get my data back" messages :-)

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Regards ..... Rheilly Phoull