

# OPTIONAL FORMATTING AND PARTITIONING

Standard LaCie storage devices will prompt you to run LaCie Setup Assistant when they are first connected to a PC or Mac. LaCie Setup Assistant helps you to quickly format the storage device according to your needs.

Please read the information below carefully if you:

- Abort LaCie Setup Assistant while it is formatting.
- Wish to reformat your storage device after LaCie Setup Assistant has successfully completed.
- Own a LaCie storage device that does not feature Setup Assistant.

## ABOUT FILE SYSTEM FORMATS

**NTFS:** Since it is the native file system for Windows, volumes created in NTFS are read and write with computers running Windows. Mac OS can read NTFS volumes but cannot natively write to them.

**Mac OS Extended (HFS+):** The native hard drive file system for Mac. Windows cannot natively read or write to HFS+ (journaled) hard drives.

**exFAT:** Generally compatible with Mac and Windows. exFAT is not a journaled file system which means it can be more susceptible to data corruption when errors occur or the drive is not disconnected properly from the computer.

**FAT32:** Compatible with Mac and Windows. However, FAT32 is a legacy file system designed for low capacity hard drives and it is not recommended for modern hard drives or operating systems. A FAT32 partition can reach up to 32GB when formatted on a Windows PC.

### How to choose the file system format

<b>Use NTFS if:</b>
...the storage device is connected to Windows PCs.
<b>Use HFS+ if:</b>
...the storage device is connected to Macs.
<b>You can use exFAT if:</b>
...the storage device is shared between Mac and Windows computers.
<b>Use FAT32 if:</b>
...the storage device is connected to older Windows and Mac computers. FAT32 is not recommended for modern operating systems and computers.

## FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS

The steps below help you format and partition a storage device.

**Caution:** Formatting erases everything on the storage device. LaCie highly recommends that you back up all data on your storage device before performing the steps below. LaCie is not responsible for any data lost due to formatting, partitioning or using a LaCie storage device.

**Note:** Refer to your operating system's documentation for more information on reformatting and partitioning your storage device.

## Mac

### OS X version 10.11 or later

1. Open the Finder and go to **Applications > Utilities > Disk Utility**.
2. In the sidebar to the left, select your LaCie d2 drive.
3. Select **Erase**.
4. A dialog box opens. Enter a name for the drive. This will be the name displayed when the drive mounts.
5. For Format, select **OS X Extended (Journaled)**.
6. For Scheme, select **GUID Partition Map**.
7. Click **Erase**.
8. Disk Utility will format the drive. When it's finished, click **Done**.

### OS X version 10.9 to 10.10

1. Open the Finder and go to **Applications > Utilities > Disk Utility**.
2. In the sidebar to the left, select the LaCie d2 drive that shows the capacity.
3. In the Disk Utility window, select the **Partition** tab.
4. Under Partition Layout, select **1 partition**.
5. Enter a name for the drive. This will be the name displayed when the drive mounts.
6. For Format, select **OS X Extended (Journaled)**.
7. Click on Options. Select **GUID Partition Map**, and then click **OK**.
8. Click **Apply**.
9. A dialog appears advising you that this is a data destructive process and any data currently on the drive will be deleted.
10. Select **Partition** to complete the formatting process.

## Windows

1. Make sure the storage device is connected to and mounted on the computer.
2. Go to Search and enter **diskmgmt.msc**. In the search results, double click **Disk Management**.
3. From the list of storage devices in the middle of the Disk Management window, locate your LaCie device.
4. The partition must be available to format. If it is currently formatted, right click on the partition and then choose **Delete**.
5. To create a new partition, right click on the volume and select **New Simple Volume**. Follow the on-screen instructions when the New Simple Volume Wizard appears.