Click to verify

I couldn't find my hard drive on disk on computer: “Why couldn’t I find my hard drive on disk management or BIOS? Is it a grave issue or how to fix “Hard Drive not Showing Up” on Windows 10 at ease?” New SSD not showing up in disk management: "I got a new M.2 SSD from Intel. When I connected it to my PC, it does not show up in the File Explorer nor Disk Management. I don't know where goes wrong. Please help." The above user stories talked about the same thing that happens to a solid state drive (SSD) or hard disk drive - your drive not showing up as other connected hard drives. Windows 10/11 is built to have smarter and faster responses when processing commands and requests. For example, when you plug in a new hard drive, it will automatically perform the necessary actions to integrate the new device into other components of the system. However, it does not follow that this process is invulnerable— sometimes, the system fails to detect the hard drive. It's important to double-check the connections from your hard drive to the PC. Ensure that the cables connecting the hard drive to the power supply or motherboard are in place. If data cables are switched or misplaced, the system cannot detect the hard drive. If you do not know how to check wires, do not attempt to plug/unplug any connected cables on the drive. Rather, have an expert look at your computer. Method 2. Assign a Drive Letter for the Drive The drive letter of the SSD is missing or conflicting with another disk can result in SSD not showing up. You can fix this issue by manually assigning the SSD a new drive letter in Windows Disk Management. You can assign or configure it indeed with the help of the below steps: Run Disk Management and right-click in the partition that lacks a drive letter. Now, from the context menu, select the Change Drive Letter and Paths option. On the Change Drive Letter and Paths dialog box, tap on the Add button, and here, another dialog box will appear. From the new pop-up dialog box, choose the Assign the following drive letter option and pick a letter from the drop-down list. Once you choose the letter, click on the OK button, and the drive letter will then be assigned to the partition. After you successfully complete assigning a drive letter, you can now restart your PC system and check if the problem is now resolved or not. Method 3. Initialize Disk If you suspect that a corrupted file or unsupported system is the root cause of the error, you can try disk initialization. To do so, follow the below steps: First, you need to open “Disk Management” tool. You can press Win + X and choose the Disk Management selection, or press Win + X and enter “diskmgmt.msc” in the run box. On the Disk Management window, you will see a list of all connected hard drives to the PC. Choose the drive that is unallocated and unknown. Right-click on it and select Initialize Disk. A prompt will ask you whether you want the hard drive to have a GUID Partition Table (GPT) or Master Boot Record (MBR). Select one and click OK. (GPT is usually recommended, but you can read up about these two online before choosing). The window will redirect to the Disk Management window. Select the initialized hard drive (listed as Online and Basic) and right-click. Choose New Simple Volume. Click on Next. Assign a drive letter and then select Next. Format the drive in the simple volume by following the wizard. Most users prefer the NFTS file system. Perform a quick format. When the progress is done, you can see the hard drive on the File Explorer. If you still can't find the hard drive, try to restart your PC. Method 4. Update Drivers As an outdated device driver can also be a cause, it is highly advisable to update it from the drive manufacturer support by following the below steps: Update Drivers through Windows Update On your search bar, type Settings and click on >Update & Security. Choose Windows Update and then click the Check for updates selection. Wait for the update to complete. If an update is published in the Windows Update service, updates will be downloaded and installed automatically. Update Drivers through Device Manager On the search box, type Device Manager. Expand the branch to look for the hard drive in question. Finally, right-click and choose the “Update driver” option to proceed. Recover all of your data from USB Drive empty due to various reasons like Malware attack, corruption, accidental deletes, damage, etc. Restore data from all kinds of storage drives like USB Drive, SD card, SSDs, HDDs, Floppy Disks, Pen Drive, etc. Preview files before recovering. Higher recovery rate than other data recovery tool. Free Download Free Download Method 5. Run Diskpart Command Launch Command Prompt. On the command line, key in diskpart and hit Enter. Type these commands one by one and click Enter key after each one:list disksselect diskclean When prompt says the command is executed successfully, close Command window and restart your PC. Note: make sure that you are running diskpart on the correct hard drive to make sure that no data is wiped. Method 6. Check BIOS If the hard drive isn’t appropriately enabled in BIOS, you need to check or ensure it is enabled correctly. Reboot your PC. When the Windows logo appears, click F2 or DEL a few times to enter the BIOS interface. Check whether the hard drive is in the list of all connected drives. If it does not appear, it could probably be because the hard drive is not connected properly. Another case is you disabled the hard drive in BIOS before. You can check if it is enabled or check if the destined hard drive is enabled. If not, allow it, exit the BIOS, and restart the system. Method 7. Connect the Hard Drive in Another Port A hard drive malfunction may be caused by faulty wiring or damaged ports. Connect your hard drive to another SATA port on the PC's motherboard. If after doing this, the hard drive remains undiscoverable, the problem may be on the cables. You can try replacing old cables with new ones and check to see if the drive is now listed as a connected drive. If you do not have any prior knowledge about hard drive cables and ports, do not attempt to do this method on your own. It would be better to approach an IT expert who knows their way around computers to avoid damaging your system further. Method 8. Run Chkdsk to Repair the Inaccessible Hard Drive Click on the Start menu and enter cmd in the search box. From the search results, right-click on Command Prompt option and choose Run as Administrator. Now, in the pop-up window, type chkdsk*:/r and click on the "Enter" button. Don’t forget to replace * with your drive letter. Finally, reboot your PC system and check if the hard drive is now visible. If the hard drive is still not showing up, you can try fixing it with the next solution. Method 9. Run Hardware and Devices Troubleshooter Running the hardware troubleshooter can fix quite a few issues on Windows, including not recognized hard drive issue. Follow the below steps: Go to the Start menu and select Settings>Update & Security. Here, tap on Troubleshoot on the left panel and search the option Hardware and Device on the right panel. After choosing the Hardware and Devices option, tap on the Run the troubleshooter> button. A window will now pop up to analyze all the hardware issues. Hereafter this step, follow the wizard to finish the entire process flawlessly. That’s all! It was this easy tofix hard drive not showing up on Windows 10/11 with running the Hardware and Devices Troubleshooter. But if this solution didn’t work for you, read on!! Video Tutorial on How to Fix Hard Drive Not Showing up in Windows 10/11 Recent Videos from Recoverit View More > Free Download | WinFree Download | Mac Part 3. Overview of the Error "Hard Drive Not Showing Up" There are a few scenarios that a Windows user might encounter when they install a new internal hard drive: Internal hard drive does not show up in Windows Disk Management If the new drive cannot be found when using the Disk Management feature, the physical installation might have failed. You can try opening the BIOS menu and locate the drive from there. Can't see the hard drive in Windows 10/11 If the hard drive is improperly installed, or subjected to faulty initialization and format, the hard drive will not show up. The external hard drive does not appear External hard drives may also not be included in the list, especially when the drive becomes corrupted or damaged. Hard drive won't appear in File Explorer, BIOS or PC If the internal hard drive is nowhere to be found, the problem may be due to a connection issue. Conclusion: The hard drive is an important component of your PC. If it is damaged, corrupted, or missing, you should avoid saving files or running programs before having it fixed. Using faulty drives may result in data loss or worse, system failure. Reading Duration: 3-5 minutes Applies to: Fix used and new hard drive not showing up, internal or external HDD/SSD not detected on Windows PCs. Are your hard drives new or old, internal or external, not showing up in File Explorer or Disk Management? Follow this guide, and you'll learn why your hard drive not showing up and how to make your hard drive showing up again in Windows 10/8/7 without losing data: Your Problems Applicable Fixes (New) Hard Drive Not Showing Up Fix 1. Check & Change Hard Drive Connection Fix 2. Format Hard Drive to NTFS Fix 3. Recover Data and Create Partition...Full steps External Hard Drive Not Showing Up Fix 1. Change USB Cable, USB Port Fix 2. Format External Hard Drive to NTFS...Full steps Why Is My Hard Drive Not Showing Up in Windows Note: If your hard drive is physically damaged or broken, send it to a local repair center or its manufacturer for repair. Fixes that are shown below only work to fix logical errors that prevent your drive from showing up on computers. If your hard drive is not detected or not showing up in Disk Management, it may have one of the following symptoms. It could be a connection issue, driver issue, faulty BIOS settings, or something else, as shown below: Symptoms of Disk Not Showing Up Causes of Hard Drive Not Showing Up The hard drive display is not showing up in File Explorer The hard drive shows Disk Unknown, Not Initialized, including the new drive The hard drive displays as RAW in Disk Management The hard drive has no drive letter The hard drive has a yellow exclamation mark Problematic connection The file system is not supported or corrupted Drive letter conflict The hard drive driver is outdated The hard drive is unallocated or not initialized The hard drive is damaged All these errors can be fixed, and follow the solutions in the next two parts to make your internal or external hard drive show up on Windows again. We have a video tutorial on solving the problem of the hard drive not showing up in Windows 11/10/8/7. You can follow video and text solutions. Part 1. Fix (Old/New) HDD Not Showing Up in Windows 10 Applies to: Fix internal or new hard drive not showing up, not recognized, or not detected errors in Windows 10/8/7. In this part, we've compiled 6 ways for you to try. Pick an appropriate method according to the current state of your hard drive, and follow the tutorial to make your drive show up again: Fixes 1, 2,3, 4, and 5 are worth trying for the used hard drive. If your new hard drive is not showing up, try fix 3 and fix 6. Let's start fixing the hard drive not showing up error by yourself: Fix 1. Change Disk Connection - Fix Hard Drive Not Showing Up in File Explorer Applies to: Fix internal hard drives or new hard drive is not showing up in File Explorer or Disk Management error. Connection issues usually result from a problematic cable or loose connection. Here's how to fix your hard drive connection and make it show up on your computer. In this way, you can also solve hard drive files not showing problems. Step 1. Check the cables. If the power cable or SATA cable is broken, replace the cable with a new one. Step 2. Unplug and plug your hard drive tightly via the SATA cable and power cable. Step 3. Restart your PC to check if the hard drive shows up. Fix 2. Format Hard Drive to NTFS - Fix Hard Disk Not Dectected with RAW or Corrupted File System Applies to: Fix hard drive not showing up caused by an unsupported, RAW, or corrupted file system. When your hard drive is displaying as RAW or as "*Others" in Disk Management, it means that your hard drive contains a file system error. In this case, the best solution is to format the drive to a supported file system. Here is how to do it: Step 1. In Windows 10/8, Press the Windows + X keys and click "Disk Management". In Windows 7, right-click the Start icon and select "Search". Type disk management and click on it. Step 2. Find and right-click on your hard drive, and select "Format". Step 3. Set the file system as NTFS, tick "Perform a quick format", and click "OK" to start formatting the drive. Note: As formatting causes data loss, don't forget to use EaseUS data recovery program in fix 3 to bring back all your hard drive data after making the drive show up. Fix 3. Restore Data and Create New Partition - Fix Not Showing Unallocated Hard Drive Applies to: Fix hard drive not showing up but displays as unallocated or unknown, new hard drive shows as not initialized in Disk Management. If a used hard disk suddenly becomes unallocated, it could be due to accidental deletion, a virus attack, or other unknown reasons that cause partition loss on your disk. In this case, you should recover data from the unallocated space first. Then, create a new volume(s) on the disk to make the hard drive show up. # 1. Recover Data from Unallocated Hard Drive Professional hard drive recovery software - EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard can fully scan a lost partition and bring back your files from unallocated hard drive space. Recover deleted files from SSD, HDD, Recycle Bin, memory cards, flash drives, digital cameras, and camcorders Support RAW drive recovery, lost partition recovery, and RAID recovery Repair corrupted JPEG/PNG files, videos, and documents after data recovery on storage devices Download for Win Recovery Rate 99.7% Download for Mac Trustpilot Rating 4.8 The software will mark the unallocated space on your disk as a lost partition so you can directly select to scan and find everything on the drive: Step 1. Select the drive where you lose your data and click "Search for Lost Data". Step 2. Use "Filter" or "Search" to find the lost files when the scan completes. Step 3. Select all the files you want and click "Recover". Then, browse another secure location to save them. Tip: You can restore data on the local disks, external hard drives, and also the cloud storage. Make sure to save the recovered files to another secure location before making the hard drive show up and ensuring it's safe to save files again. If you cannot solve this case on your own, you can also turn to data recovery services. Consult with EaseUS data recovery experts for one-on-one manual recovery service. We could offer the following services after a FREE diagnosis Fix HDD, SSD, external hard drive, USB flash drive, and pen drive issues Fix disks that cannot be read or accessed because of bad sectors Fix disks that become GPT-protected partitions Repair damaged RAW drive that needs to be reformatted (BitLocker encrypted drive is also supported) Wipe data, unformat hard drive, Install/uninstall software or driver, etc. #2. Create a New Partition to Make the Hard Drive Show Up After retrieving all your precious files, you can create a new partition to make your hard disk appear and be usable again on the computer. Step 1. Right-click "This PC", choose "Manage", and click "Disk Management". Step 2. Right-click the unallocated space of your hard drive and choose "New Simple Volume...". Step 3. In the New Simple Volume Wizard, click "Next" to continue. Step 4. Set the volume size, assign a drive letter to the volume, set NTFS as the file system, and click "Next". Step 5. Click "Finish" when Disk Management shows it has created a new volume on your hard drive. Fix 4. Change Hard Drive Letter - Fix Not Showing Disk with Drive Letter Conflict Applies to: Fix hard drive not showing up in File Explorer error caused by conflicted drive letter or hard drive has no drive letter. When the drive letter of your hard drive conflicts with another drive letter on the computer, the hard drive will show as New Volume in Disk Management. As a result, it won't show up in File Explorer. So, the best way to make your hard drive show up is to change its drive letter. Here are the steps to do that: Step 1. In Disk Management, right-click the hard drive marked as New Volume or the partition doesn't have a drive letter. Step 2. Select "Change Drive Letter and Paths". In the new window, click "Change". Step 3. Assign a new drive letter to your external or internal hard drive and click "OK". Fix 5. Update Disk Drivers - Fix Hard Drive Not Showing Up Due to Outdated Disk Driver Applies to: Fix the hard drive not showing up in File Explorer. The hard disk has a yellow exclamation mark in Disk Management. If your hard drive has a yellow exclamation mark in Disk Management under the Disk Driver section, it means that the drive driver is outdated. As a result, the hard drive will not appear in Windows File Explorer or Disk Management. The only solution is to update the device driver, and here are the steps for you to do that: Step 1. Right-click "This PC" and choose "Manage". Step 2. Click "Device Manager" then expand "Disk drives". Step 3. Find and right-click the problematic external or internal drive and select "Update driver". Step 4. Click "Search automatically search for driver software online". Wait for the driver to be updated, then reboot your computer. Afterward, you can check whether the hard drive shows up or not. Fix 6. Initialize Disk, Create Volume, and Enable in BIOS - Fix New Hard Drive Not Showing Up Applies to: Fix new hard drive is not showing up in File Explorer issue. Most of the time, if your hard drive is a brand-new disk, you need to initialize it first. Then, create a new partition on it and enable it in BIOS. By doing so, you'll make your new hard drive show up on Windows 10/8/7. #1. Initialize Disk and Create Volume on New Hard Drive Step 1. Right-click "This PC" (in Windows 10) and choose "Manage". Step 2. Go to "Disk Management", right-click your new hard disk, and choose "Initialize Disk". Step 3. Select the disk, choose MBR or GPT as its partition style, and click "OK" to start. Step 4. Right-click on the unallocated space in your new hard drive and select "New Simple Volume...". Step 5. Set the volume size, drive letter, and file system as NTFS for the new hard drive. Step 6. Click "Finish" when the process completes. #2. Enable Hard Drive in BIOS If the hard drive is disabled in BIOS, the OS won't be able to detect it, resulting in it not showing up in Windows. Hence, checking whether your hard drive is disabled in BIOS is necessary. Step 1. Restart your computer and press F2 or Del until you enter BIOS. Step 2. Use the arrow keys on your keyboard to choose "Integrated Peripherals" and hit "Enter". Step 3. Use the arrow keys to select "USB Controller". If it is disabled, change the option to "Enabled". Step 4. Save and exit BIOS. Afterward, restart your computer and see whether your hard drive is detected. You May Also Be Interested In: If you are having a similar issue on a USB flash drive or external disk, all the provided fixes above can help. You can also follow the links below for help. Part 2. Fix External Hard Drive Not Showing Up - 4 Fixes Works to: Fix external hard drive not showing up or not detected by Windows PC error. Mostly, when your external hard drive fails to show up on Windows 10/8/7, first, connect your new hard drive correctly to your computers. Then, you can pick an appropriate fix to make your external hard drive show up on your PC and work normally again: So, the solutions are quite clear now. Just follow the right method to make your new hard drive detectable and show up on your computer again. Fix 1. Change the USB Cable, USB Port, and Reconnect the External Hard Drive Change the connection between the external hard drive and the computer, and you can make the external disk show up. Step 1. If the old one is damaged, replace it with a new USB one and connect the drive to the PC. Step 2. Change the USB port if the external hard drive doesn't show up, and reconnect the drive to the PC. Step 3. Switch and connect the external hard drive to another computer. If nothing shows up, the external hard drive has a detection issue on your PC. Try the following 3 fixes to make the drive show up again. Fix 2. Format External Hard Drive to NTFS/exFAT If the external hard drive displays as RAW or "*Other", it won't show up correctly on your computer. Step 1. Keep the external hard drive connected to the PC. Step 2. Open Disk Management and right-click the external hard drive with the RAW or unknown file system. Step 3. Select "Format" and set "NTFS" or "exFAT" for the external hard drive. Step 4. Select "OK" to finish the formatting. If you lost files after formatting the external hard drive, turn to EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard for help. It will scan and find all your lost files. Download for Win Recovery Rate 99.7% Download for Mac Trustpilot Rating 4.8 Fix 3. Reinstall Disk Drivers - Fix the External Hard Drive Not Showing UP with a Yellow Exclamation Applies to: Fix external hard drive not showing up and has a yellow exclamation mark in Disk Management. When the external hard drive has an outdated driver, it won't show up in File Explorer. It appears with a yellow exclamation under the Disk driver section. The only solution is to update the device driver, and here are the steps for you to do that: Step 1. Right-click the Windows icon and choose "Device Manager". Step 2. Expand "Disk drives" and find your external hard drive. Step 3. Right-click the problematic external drive and select "Uninstall device". Step 4. Click "OK" to confirm. Restart your computer and reconnect the external hard drive to your PC. Fix 4. Update Outdated BUS Controller Drivers in the External Hard Drive Applies to: Fix external hard disk not showing up or not detected by Windows PC. If you notice the external hard drive works with one computer but fails to be detected by another, you can try to update the USB Controller driver of the computer in which the hard drive is not showing up. Step 1. Right-click "This PC" and choose "Manage". Step 2. Click "Device Manager" then expand "Universal Serial Bus controllers". Step 3. Right-click "USB Root Hub (USB3.0)" and select "Update driver". Step 4. Choose "Search automatically for updated driver software" and restart your computer. More Help: If the above fixes don't fully resolve your issue of the external hard disk not showing up, don't worry. You may get further help from the tutorial page below. Check it out to find the best solution for your issue. Part 3. Bonus Tips to Fix Hard Drive Not Showing Files Sometimes, a hard drive may not show files, although the files exist. Note that the files that are missing on the hard drive are still recoverable. Files disappearing could be caused by the following reasons: Files are hidden by malware or a virus Files are deleted accidentally The computer does not recognize the file system of the hard drive To fix these issues, you can follow the following steps: Step 1. Recover hidden or removed files from the hard drive. Reliable EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard can help you restore all your hard drive files in only 3 steps, as shown in Fix 3 Part 1. Download for Win Recovery Rate 99.7% Download for Mac Trustpilot Rating 4.8 Step 2. Run antivirus or malware-clear software to remove all viruses and malware. Step 3. Format the hard drive to restore its full capacity and set NTFS as its file system. You are now good to use this drive and save files on it again. For more details, check out the article about the pen drive not showing files for help. The Ending Line In this guide, we explained to you why your hard drive or external hard drive is not showing up on your Windows PC. We also provided solutions and fixes to help you make the used external or internal hard drives and new hard drives show up again without losing any data. Sometimes, you may encounter the same issue on a USB drive, SD card, etc. These fixes are applicable to resolve this error on USB, SD card, etc., devices. FAQs About Hard Drive Not Showing Up In addition to new or used hard drives not showing up issues in File Explorer or Disk Management, we will try and answer some of your most asked questions about these issues. If you have any questions, the following should answer them for you: 1. What do I do if my internal hard drive is not detected? As described on this page, there are many ways you can follow to fix the internal hard drive not detected issue. For a new hard drive, initialize the disk and then create partitions on the drive. For a used hard drive, try these tips shown on this page in Part 1: Change the hard drive letter; Recover lost partition data and create new partitions; Update the hard drive driver; Check the hard drive connection and enable it in BIOS. 2. How do I get Windows 10 to recognize a new hard drive? Similar to the solutions provided on this page, when a new hard drive is not detected or recognized on Windows 10, you should mainly follow the following tips: Check new hard drive connection > Initialize new hard drive and create partition > Update drive letter > Enable it in BIOS. 3. Why is my hard drive not showing up on Mac? Similar to the hard drive not showing up on Windows computers, the reasons why your hard drive is not showing up on Mac are pretty much the same. Here is a list of why a hard drive is not showing up on Mac: Hard drive connection error Settings in Desktop, Finder USB port issue Hard drive corrupted macOS and firmware are outdated ... For a step-by-step guide, you may follow the USB flash drive not showing up on Mac to troubleshoot the hard drive not detected on Mac issue and make the drive detectable again. When you connect a mechanical hard drive (HDD), solid-state drive (SSD), or external USB storage to Windows 10, the system usually sets it up automatically. However, there are times when the new drive doesn’t show up in File Explorer. This issue can occur for a variety of reasons, some simple, others more complex.For instance, there could be a physical problem with the power or data cable. In other cases, the drive might be offline, disabled, or missing a drive letter. If you're using a drive that was previously set up on another computer, its partition might be unreadable due to corruption or because it’s formatted using a file system that Windows 10 doesn’t recognize. You might also be dealing with a raw drive that hasn't been initialized or formatted yet, which makes it invisible to File Explorer.Whatever the cause, Windows 10 offers several built-in tools to help you diagnose and resolve the issue. You can use Device Manager, Disk Management, or advanced command-line utilities like DiskPart to bring the drive back online and make it accessible again. You may like In this how-to guide, I'll outline the different ways to troubleshoot a hard drive that refuses to appear in File Explorer.On Windows 10, if a traditional mechanical hard drive (HDD) or solid-state drive (SSD) does not appear in File Explorer, there are many reasons to why this is happening, but before checking and modifying the system settings, try these troubleshooting steps:Confirm that the hard drive is properly connected to the computer and receiving power.If it's an external USB hard drive, disconnect it and try a different USB port.Avoid using a USB hub during troubleshooting, and connect the drive directly to the computer.If it's an internal hard drive, ensure both the data and power cables are securely connected to the drive, motherboard, and power supply. If this is a newer NVMe SSD drive, make sure it's sitting properly in the slot and secure the screw. (Always power off and unplug the computer before inspecting or handling internal components.)Try connecting the drive to another computer to check if the issue is with the device itself.Access the computer’s BIOS or UEFI firmware and verify that the system detects the storage device. (Since firmware interfaces vary by manufacturer and model, refer to the device’s support website for specific instructions on accessing and navigating BIOS or UEFI.)Once you determine that it is not a physical problem, you can use the following recommendations to fix the most common problem preventing File Explorer from showing a hard drive.How to fix missing hard drive in File Explorer using Device ManagerIn the rare case that the storage does not appear in Disk Management or File Explorer, it may mean that the hard drive is disabled. If this is the case, you can enable it quickly using Device Manager.All the latest news, reviews, and guides for Windows and Xbox diehards.To enable a hard drive using Device Manager on Windows 10, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Device Manager and click the top result to open the app.Expand the Disk drives branch.Right-click the hard drive in question and select the Properties option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the Driver tab.Click the Enable Device button.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After you complete the steps, the hard drive and data should be accessible on the computer.How to fix missing hard drive in File Explorer using Disk ManagementThere are a few requirements for a hard drive to be available in File Explorer. The device must be online and initialized. It needs to have a partition properly configured. It also needs to have a drive letter assigned, or it should be mounted as a folder.If you are dealing with any of these problems, the steps below will help you troubleshoot and fix the most common issues with Disk Management.Set drive onlineTo bring a hard drive online, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Disk Management and click the top result to open the app.Right-click the disk with the "Offline label" and select the Online option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After you complete the steps, if the hard drive was offline and previously configured, it should appear in File Explorer. If the storage was offline but never configured, continue with the steps below.Initialize driveTo initialize a hard drive on Windows 10, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Disk Management and click the top result to open the app.Right-click the disk with the "Unknown" label and select the Initialize Disk option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Check the drive you want to initialize under the "Select disks" section.Select the "GPT (GUID Partition Table)" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Once you complete the steps, this action will erase everything on the drive and prepare it for formatting if the storage was never initialized.Import foreign driveIf the drive was configured as a dynamic disk on another computer, it will appear as a foreign drive on a different device, and you will need to import it using the Disk Management console. This process should grant you access to the data without destroying it, but creating a backup of the data is still recommended, if possible.To import a hard drive with a dynamic configuration to make it accessible through File Explorer, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Disk Management and click the top result to open the app.Right-click the disk with the "Dynamic" label and select the "Import Foreign Disks" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Select the "Foreign disk group (1 of 1 disks)" item under the "Disk groups" section.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the OK button.Click the OK button again.Once you complete the steps, the hard drive will be imported, and the data will be accessible from File Explorer or any other application.Configure drive letterOn Windows 10, when the hard drive is online and initialized and does not appear in the system, it's usually for one of two reasons. The drive does not have a drive letter. Or, if it was connected to another computer, the new system is now trying to assign the same drive letter that is already assigned to another drive on the machine.To assign a drive letter to the storage on Windows 10, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Disk Management and click the top result to open the app.Right-click the partition on the hard drive without a drive letter and select the "Change Drive Letter and Paths" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the Add button.Select the "Assign the following driver letter" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Use the drop-down menu option and select a drive letter – for example, Z, X, or Y.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After you complete the steps, the hard drive data should now be accessible using File Explorer.Configure new partitionIf the drive is online and initialized, the drive may not have a formatted partition. In this case, you can use the Disk Management wizard to configure and assign a letter to the partition.To set up and format a hard drive to allow it to appear in File Explorer, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Disk Management and click the top result to open the app.Right-click the partition on the hard drive without a drive letter and select the "New Simple Volume" option.Quick tip: Usually, the "basic" drive will have a blue stripe indicating the beginning and end of the partition. Also, select the correct storage, as the following steps will erase everything on the hard drive you choose.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the Next button.Click the Next button to use all the available space for the partition. Otherwise, specify the size in the "Simple volume size in MB" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Select the "Assign the following driver letter" option.Use the drop-down menu option and select a drive letter – for example, Z, X, or Y.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the Next button.Select the "Format this volume with the following settings" option.Select the NTFS option in the "File system" setting.Select the Default option in the "Allocation unit" setting.In the "Volume label" field, enter a descriptive name for the drive – for example, "data".Check the "Perform a quick format" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the Next button.Click the Finish button.Once you complete the steps, the hard drive will be listed on the "This PC" page of File Explorer, and you can start saving files in it.How to fix missing hard drive in File Explorer updating driverIf the problem is related to the storage driver, you can reinstall or update the driver to the latest version to resolve the issue.To reinstall the hard drive driver, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Device Manager and click the top result to open the app.Expand the Disk drives branch.Right-click the hard drive in question and select the Uninstall device option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the Uninstall button.Restart the computerOnce you complete the steps, Windows 10 should reinstall the driver automatically, and the hard drive should now appear in File Explorer.If the problem persists, it is recommended to download the latest available driver from the drive manufacturer's support website and use their instructions to update the driver.If the support website does not offer any instructions, unpack the driver zip folder and then use these steps:Open Start.Search for Device Manager and click the top result to open the app.Expand the Disk drives branch.Right-click the hard drive in question and select the Update driver option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Select the "Browse my computer for drivers" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Select the folder with the extracted driver files.Click the OK button.Check the Include subfolders option.Click the Next button.Click the Close button.After you complete the steps, the driver will install, and the hard drive should be accessible on Windows 10.How to fix missing hard drive in File Explorer using DiskPartAlternatively, if the hard drive appears in Disk Management but the storage is unusable, meaning you cannot access the data and cannot use the format option or assign a drive letter, then it may be a logical problem. If this is the case, you can use DiskPart to clean the drive and start from scratch. Here's how:Open Start.Search for Command Prompt, right-click the top result, and select the Run as administrator option.Type the following command to launch the diskpart tool and press Enter: diskpartType the following command to list the available disks and press Enter: list diskType the following command to select the hard drive not showing up in File Explorer and press Enter: select disk 1In the command, make sure to select the correct drive. Otherwise, you may end up erasing the data in the wrong storage, which cannot be undone.Type the following command to completely erase the drive and press Enter: cleanWarning: The "clean" command will erase everything, including data, partitions, and the drive will appear blank with the label "Unknown" and not initialized.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Type the following command to create a partition using the available space and press Enter: create partition primaryType the following command to select the newly created partition and press Enter: select partition 1Type the following command to set the partition as active and press Enter: activeType the following command to format the partition with the NTFS file system and press Enter: format FS=NTFSType the following command to assign a drive letter and press Enter: assign letter=ZIn the command, change "Z" for another drive letter not already in use.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Type the following command to close diskpart and press Enter: exitOnce you complete the steps, the hard drive will be formatted with a new drive letter, and it should now appear in File Explorer.More resourcesFor more helpful articles, coverage, and answers to common questions about Windows 10, visit the following resources: Quick Navigation: Symptom of hard drive not showing up issue You installed a hard drive on your computer and open File Explorer, but to your dismay, there is not drive icon representing the hard disk. Your computer failed to recognized disk, and you connect the disk to another PC, and end up with same result. Hard drive not showing up is a common issue you may encounter during using computer. As long as you have a hard drive running on your computer, it's only a matter of time before you get the problem. There are several scenarios of this problem, for example, hard drive shows up in Disk Management not in Windows, disk not showing in Disk Management, hard disk shows up in BIOS but not in Windows, hard drive cannot be detected in BIOS, USB drive or external hard drive not showing up, etc. In some cases, even new hard drive cannot be recognized by computer. Once a hard drive is not recognized on computer, you are no longer able to access data stored on it. If files on the hard drive do not have a backup, you might be driven mad by this issue. Perhaps you are trying to looking for solutions to this problem. Don't worry! The disk not showing up issue can be fixed in most cases, and the following content will help you dig causes and solutions. Reasons why hard drive is not showing up in Windows There is a variety of reasons why Windows or BIOS cannot detect the presence of your hard drive. Here is a list of possible causes of the problem, and you can refer to these factors: Connection issue. In some cases, storage device is not properly connected to computer and it cannot be recognized, for example, there might be something wrong with power supply, cable or USB port, etc. Hard drive capacity is unallocated. If a hard disk contains no partition and all disk space is unallocated, it won't show in Windows Explorer. Hard disk does not have a drive letter. A partition without a drive letter does not show in File Explorer. If it is the case, we can fix the disk not showing issue by assigning a drive letter. Hard drive is not initialized. If you check a disk in Disk Management and it is marked as "Unknown, Not initialized", and it won't show in system. Disk driver is outdated. If your computer cannot recognized connected hard drive, there is a possibility that the disk's driver is outdated or not compatible with operating system. Disk is not enabled in bios or device manager. If a new hard drive cannot be detected by the system BIOS, the cause might be that the disk is not enabled. Bad sectors. Hard drive bad sector does not respond to read or write requests. A disk with too many bad sectors won't be recognized by system. Other physical damage. Hard drive contains moving physical moving components and it is relatively fragile to collision than SSD. If its heads gets damaged, and it cannot be accessed anymore. Since causes to the issue vary from people, solutions, there are various solutions to fix it. The following part will present some methods which are mostly recommended by experts step by step and you can try these methods one by one. Method 1: Check hard drive cable connection There is possibility that a hard drive does not show up due to improper cable connection, which should be checked in the first place when you encounter the issue. A local hard drive is connected to computer's motherboard via two cables: the data cable and power cable. You should make sure these two cables works well and correctly connects hard disk and motherboard. If the connection is loose, you can try a new cable. If cables are set correctly to devices and the hard disk still cannot be recognized, there might be something wrong with the SATA port. In that case, you need to plug data cable to a different port on your motherboard and check whether the problem can be solved. If your hard drive is connected via USB port, you should try another USB port and a different computer. Besides, if you plug hard drive via a USB hub, it is recommended to connect disk to computer directly, as USB hub sometimes cannot provide sufficient power supply. Method 2: Initialize and format hard drive It happens that a hard drive does not show up in Windows Explorer but shows in Disk Management. However, the disk is shown as uninitialized due to some corruption issues. You can initialize the disk following these steps: Step 1 Access Disk Management. Press Windows logo key and R from keyboard to open Run box. Then type "diskmgmt.msc" in Run box and click OK button. This will open Disk Management window. Step 2 Find the uninitialized hard drive. There are two clues helping you locate the hard drive in question. First, the disk is marked as "Unknown" and "Not initialized" on the left, which means the disk is not formatted or created a volume; second, check whether the disk size matches the capacity of the drive you connected. Step 3 Right-click on the area of the disk name and select "Initialize Disk" from context menu. Step 4 Select partition style for the disk you want to initialize and click OK button. There are two partition styles: MBR (Master Boot Record) and GPT (GUID Partition Table). If you do not know which one to choose, you can read the article first: MBR VS GPT, which one is the better choice for your computer? Step 5 Right-click on the disk again and select "New Simple Volume". Then you can follow the onscreen instruction to create new partition and format the disk. Method 3: Partition and format the hard drive We often use Disk Management to check disk status and file system issue, because Disk Management can display a disk which has not been partition and is full of unallocated space. To make the hard drive shown in Windows Explorer you should create partition on the disk. However, if the hard drive is suffering from partition loss issue, you should not create new partitions before lost data is recovered. On this occasion, lost partition recovery should be performed prior to any other actions. This section will show you how to restore deleted or lost partitions directly from hard drive as well as how to partition a hard disk. If partition recovery is not needed, you can move to Way 1 and Way 2 to partition the hard drive. Way 1: Recover deleted / lost partition Deleted or lost partitions cannot be restored by Disk Management, but we can use partition recovery software to get back lost volume easily. It is highly recommended to use Eassos DiskGenius Pro to do the job for you. This partition recovery software is able to restore deleted partition back to the status before they got lost, which means files and folders in the partition will be recovered at the same time. Once lost partitions are recovered, they can be accessed again under Windows. Besides, the partition recovery feature supports multiple file system types, including NTFS, FAT32, exFAT, FAT16, FAT12, Ext2, Ext3 and Ext4. Let's see how recovery works: Step 1 Install and launch Eassos DiskGenius from your computer, and then you can see all disks connected to your computer. Step 2 Select the hard drive which loses partitions and click "Partition Recovery" button from the toolbar. Step 3 Click Start button and DiskGenius starts to search for lost partitions on the selected disk area. Step 4 Reserve or Ignore partition. Once a partition is found, you'll be prompted to make decision between Reserve and Ignore. The simple rule is to reserve the one you want to recover and ignore incorrect partitions. How to decide whether the partition is the one you need to recover? You can easily make the choice by previewing files in the partition. DiskGenius allows to preview files in the partition it finds out, and you can view and open these files to make sure if the partition is correct. Step 5 Save lost partitions to partition table by clicking Save All button. Step 6 Select partition table style for the disk and click OK. You can either choose partition table style on your own or follow the suggested option. If you want to create partition on hard drive in Windows Disk Management, please follow these steps: Step 1 Open Disk Management, right-click on unallocated space and select New Simple Volume option from context menu. Step 2 The New Simple Volume Wizard will be launch and it will guide you through the process of creating a new partition on unallocated space. Step 3 In the rest steps you'll be asked to set partition size, driver letter, file system type, volume label, formatting type, etc. You can follow suggested setting and click Next button until the partition is created successfully. Way 3: Partition hard drive to multiple volumes quickly using Windows partition manager This method is able to quickly partition / repartition a hard drive into multiple partitions at one time, and the process is simple and quick. Here we'll use a free Windows partition manager to do complete the task. Step 1 Launch Eassos DiskGenius from your computer. Select the hard drive that needs to be partitioned and click "Quick Partition" button. Step 2 Select partition table style, partition count, partition size, volume name, etc. and click OK button. Note: the option "Align Partition to Integral Multiple of Sectors" option should be selected if you want your partition to be 4K aligned. The value next to the option can be the default setting, which satisfies the 4K alignment requirement. Step 3 Wait for a while, new partitions will be created and formatted. Method 4: Assign a drive letter for the drive Without a drive letter, partition won't be displayed in Windows. If the hard drive which does not show up in Windows has been well connected to your computer and properly partitioned, you still cannot access it in File Explorer, you should make sure if it has a drive letter. Here is how to assign a drive letter: Step 1 Launch Disk Management, right-click on the partition which is lack of drive letter and select "Change Drive Letter and Paths" option from context menu. Step 2 Click "Add" button on the "Change drive Letter and Paths" dialog box. Then another dialog box pops up. Step 3 Select "Assign the following drive letter" option and choose a letter from the drop-down list. Then click OK and the drive letter will be added to the partition. Method 5: Run hardware and devices troubleshooter Hardware troubleshooter is a built-in tool in Windows 7/8/10. If your installed hard drive or other hardware does not work properly as expected, you can try this tool to check if there are any errors on the device. Step 1 Right