

Using Windows DiskPart Tool to Reset External USB SSD Drive to Factory

Right click on the Windows Button and Left Click on Run.

Type DiskPart in the text input line and press enter. Next to the DISKPART> prompt, enter the following commands. Make sure to select the proper drive # that you want to "CLEAN" (that is, to reset to factory). If you select the wrong disk, like the Disk C:> where the operating system is installed, you will likely DELETE YOUR WINDOWS O/S.

```
Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.19041.3636

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: DESKTOP-EI33F04

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status              Size          Free           Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online              1863 GB       1024 KB
   Disk 1    Online              15 TB         0 B           *

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> clean

DiskPart succeeded in cleaning the disk.

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status              Size          Free           Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online              1863 GB       1024 KB
   * Disk 1    Online              15 TB         15 TB

DISKPART> Exit
```

Now you can use Windows Disk Management Snap-in to initialize the disk, partition it, and format it.

WELL MAYBE NOT!

You may need to do more to separately delete each of the two partitions on disk 1, including using the "override" parameter to delete any protected partitions, and then clean the entire selected disk again. Thereafter, if you list partition on the selected disk, there will be none listed. Try to follow what I did as follows:

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.19041.3636

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On computer: DESKTOP-EI33F04

DISKPART> list disk

Disk ###	Status	Size	Free	Dyn	Gpt
-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---
Disk 0	Online	1863 GB	1024 KB		
Disk 1	Online	15 TB	0 B		*

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> list partition

Partition ###	Type	Size	Offset
-----	-----	-----	-----
Partition 1	Reserved	15 MB	24 KB
Partition 2	Primary	15 TB	16 MB

DISKPART> select partition 2

Partition 2 is now the selected partition.

DISKPART> list partition

Partition ###	Type	Size	Offset
-----	-----	-----	-----
Partition 1	Reserved	15 MB	24 KB
* Partition 2	Primary	15 TB	16 MB

DISKPART> select partition 2

Partition 2 is now the selected partition.

DISKPART> delete partition

DiskPart successfully deleted the selected partition.

DISKPART> select partition 1

Partition 1 is now the selected partition.

DISKPART> list partition

Partition ###	Type	Size	Offset
---------------	------	------	--------

```

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* Partition 1    Reserved          15 MB    24 KB
  Partition 2    Primary             15 TB    16 MB

```

DISKPART> delete partition

Virtual Disk Service error:
Cannot delete a protected partition without the force protected parameter set.

DISKPART> select partition 1

Partition 1 is now the selected partition.

DISKPART> list partition

```

Partition ###  Type                Size      Offset
-----
* Partition 1   Reserved           15 MB     24 KB
  Partition 2   Primary            15 TB     16 MB

```

DISKPART> delete partition override

DiskPart successfully deleted the selected partition.

DISKPART> list partition

```

Partition ###  Type                Size      Offset
-----
Partition 1    Reserved           15 MB     24 KB
Partition 2    Primary            15 TB     16 MB

```

DISKPART> list disk

```

Disk ###  Status      Size      Free      Dyn  Gpt
-----
Disk 0    Online     1863 GB   1024 KB
* Disk 1    Online     15 TB     0 B      *

```

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> clean

DiskPart succeeded in cleaning the disk.

DISKPART> list disk

```

Disk ###  Status      Size      Free      Dyn  Gpt

```

```
-----  
Disk 0      Online      1863 GB  1024 KB  
* Disk 1    Online      15 TB   15 TB
```

```
DISKPART> list partition
```

There are no partitions on this disk to show.

```
DISKPART>
```

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