# C:\Users\stefano.maggi.CONBIPELSPA\Desktop\prom38.png

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**Procedure:** How to recycle your 2.5 HDD into Portable External HDD

**Source:** [**LINK**](http://forums.techarena.in/tips-tweaks/1460471.htm) **(**http://forums.techarena.in/tips-tweaks/1460471.htm**)**

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# [**How to recycle your 2.5 HDD into Portable External HDD**](http://heelpbook.altervista.org/2012/how-to-recycle-your-2-5-hdd-into-portable-external-hdd/)

In case you replaced your laptop or desktop hard drive with a new **SATA** harddrive, what you do with your old **2.5 HDD** ? Well, instead of throwing it out or selling it at the cheap rate, you can easily convert it into **Portable HardDrive**. By buying a simple external enclosure, you can recycle your hard drive.



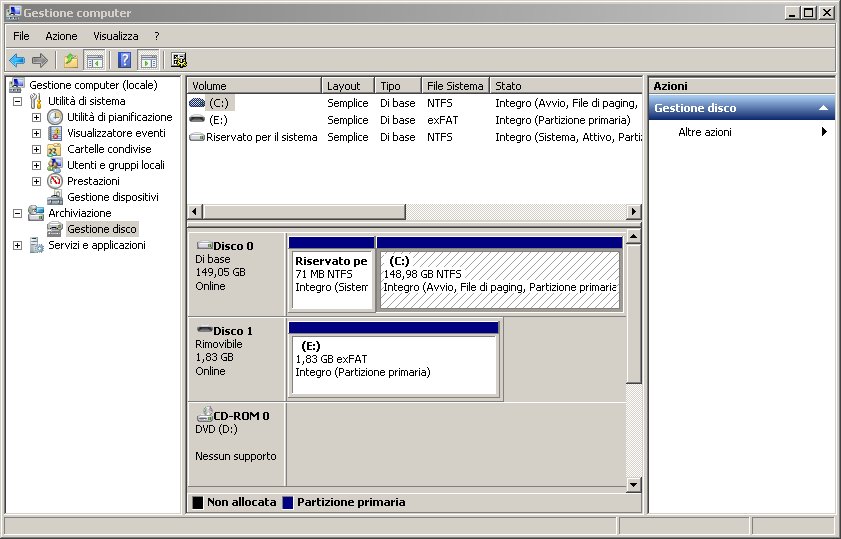
First of all make sure your **Hard Drive** is **SATA** or **IDE**, and accordingly buy an external enclosure. Once you bought the enclosure, follow these simple steps to install your hard drive:

* Using a *screwdriver*, remove the screws to open your case.
* Remove the cover.
* Insert and then plug the hard drive on the **S-ATA** box.
* Depending on your case, it may be that you have to attach the hard disk to the housing so it does not move.
* Close the box.
* Screw it. And now, you have a portable external hard drive!

**Connect the external hard drive to the computer:**

Before you can copy files to your external hard drive, you need it to be repartitioned and formatted. Here is how to do that:

* Plug the power cable to the back of the limp and then connect your hard drive to yourcomputer using the supplied **USB** cable.
* **Windows** detects and automatically installs the new **USB** device.
* If the drive had several partitions, they all appear in **Windows Explorer**.
* If you want to delete all partitions to have one, click the right mouse button on the**Computer** icon in the *Start menu* and click **Manage**.
* In the window management of the computer that appears, unroll the item **Storage** then click **Disk Management**.



* In the list below, identify your portable external hard drive. The list of all partitions in it is displayed.
* Click the right mouse button on the first partition on that drive and click **Delete Volume** and then **YES**.
* The space goes into "*unallocated*".
* Repeat for other partitions on that disk. The unallocated space will increase accordingly.
* In the case of an extended partition, right-click the right mouse button and click **Delete Partition**. Confirm with **Yes**.
* Note that it may be a space of a hundred MB reserved for the system that you can not delete.
* Finally, click on the unallocated space freed with the right mouse button and click **New Simple Volume**.
* In the wizard that opens, click **Next**.
* Specify the size of the new partition, the maximum size available here. Click **Next**.
* Choose the letter of the explorer to assign to the hard drive and click **Next**.
* Then choose to format the drive to **NTFS**, give it a name, uncheck the *Perform a quick format* to verify the same time the integrity of your hard drive and click **Next**.
* Finally, click **Finish**.
* Preparing your hard drive begins.
* After few minutes, the operation is complete.
* Your external hard drive can now be used. It appears in **Windows Explorer**.