# How do I get my external drive to work with both Windows and MacOS?

## How do make an external USB drive work on both Windows and MacOS?

In order for an external drive (hard drive and flash drive) to work with both Windows and MacOS, it has to be formatted with the exFAT file system.

\*\*\*Formatting a drive means you will lose ALL data on that drive. Make sure all of your data is backed up BEFORE your format the drive

### On MacOS:

Open Finder, go to Applications > Utilities > Disk Utility

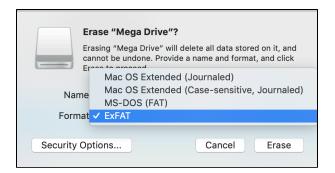
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Select [hd: DriveName], then Erase \*Use caution not to select the Macintosh drive

Name the drive, then change the Format to exFAT

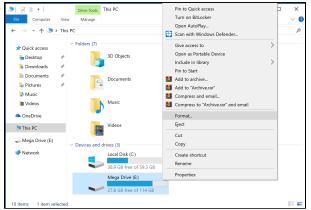


Click Erase



### On Windows 10:

Go to File Explorer > This PC



Right click on [hd: DriveName], then Format \*Use caution not to select the C: drive

Change File System to exFAT and name the drive under Volume Label

#### Click Start

\*Optional: If you believe the drive is experiencing issues, uncheck Quick Format which will scan the drive for errors. Otherwise, keep Quick Format checked.

Format Mega	Drive (E:)	$\times$		
Capacity:				
114 GB		~		
File system				
exFAT (Default	~			
Allocation unit	size			
128 kilobytes				
Restore devi	ce defaults			
Mega Drive				
Format options	5			
Quick Format				
	Start	Close		