



Data Medics | Data Recovery

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How Long Does Data Recovery Take?

- **Hardware Condition-** A drive that is fully functional is much faster to recover data from than one that is severely damaged and must be repaired. So cases that are simply related to accidental deletion, format, viruses, etc. are generally pretty quick on the turnaround. Usually within 48 hours for most cases, however there are times when it takes longer. Drives needing hardware recovery generally take around 7 to 10 days, but can be longer based on other factors below. There are also some complex recovery such as OS re-installs which can take even longer due to the complexity.
- **Service Tier** – Customers can choose to pay a bit more for our services to receive priority service. If expedited or emergency level service is selected the case will be given priority over all standard service tier projects. Therefore a standard service tier project may be bumped from necessary equipment and delayed until all emergency & expedited cases requiring that equipment are completed. Expedited service cases are handled before standard and are worked on during normal business hours. Emergency service cases are worked on during normal business hours and after hours to be completed as quickly as possible.
- **Drive Size-** Even if the drive is fully functional, a 4Tb drive will take as much as 20 hours to perform a single scan, and a typical recovery may involve several scans to effectively find all files. If the drive is not performing at optimal efficiency after repair the initial time required to extract data can be much longer. As a rule of thumb expect an extra day or two for drives larger than 500Gb or a few days for drives larger than 2Tb.
- **Availability of Donor Parts-** Parts may be required to repair the drive to a semi-functional condition so data can be extracted. Many hard drive parts are unique to specific sub-models manufactured during a specific time period and a specific factory. Most often we can quickly source the parts we need within just a few days. Often we may even have the part in stock. However, there are times where a specific donor drive is required to obtain a rare part and it may even be outside the country. So this may result in delays which we have no control over.
- **Functionality of Drive After Repair** – Many hard drives don't take kindly to replacement parts and may not function at full potential after repair. Because of the precise calibration required to accurately read data it may require data to be read at a much lower speed than normal to ensure consistency. While rare, some drives can take a month or more to extract all the data after certain repairs.