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How to be Sure a Thief Cannot get your Laptop Hard Drive Data if You Sell or Dispose of the Laptop by Graham Kelly

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Records once placed on a hard drive are almost impossible get rid of. Most people fail to realise that whenever they store a photo, a letter or go online that data is continually being stored on their hard disk drive. ID theft may then take place if your information is later intercepted by a crook.

If you choose to sell or get rid of your old laptop you could possibly need to avoid your private data getting available to the new owner. You might try deleting files or maybe reformatting the challenging drive and resetting up Windows. On the other hand, neither of those techniques will completely get rid of your data this kind of that it may be achievable for an identity thief either to partially or entirely recover your personal files. Considering that after you delete a file it is not genuinely deleted, it can be only eliminated in the file list. Likewise, reformatting a tricky drive just alterations the file header to display no files present. It is actually really simple to get a novice to recover the file headers complete with all the information. There are programs that claim to fill the really hard drive with zeros. Having said that, it really is unattainable for the laptop novice to become sure that the system has functioned the right way and totally filled the challenging drive with blank information.

Considering that all your data is stored in the laptop's hard drive the clear way to eliminate it would be to destroy the really hard drive. This however is not as effortless because it sounds. You'll, firstly, must find and take away the laptop's challenging drive; this really is generally within a removable cover or behind the back fascia in the laptop. It depends on the make and model of exactly exactly where the tough drive is positioned but can usually be removed while not an excessive amount of work.

Assuming that you've removed the hard drive and intend to destroy it, you will need to choose the simplest way to achieve this. Do not put it in water, place it in a fire, subject it to micro waves, hit it with a hammer, because these strategies may be dangerous and will not destroy the data. The only method to make sure that your data is eliminated is to ruin the drive platters (disks). To achieve this you will have to open the drive casing. Most use unique screws requiring a Torex or similar driver bit that may usually be purchased cheaply from a DIY outlet. Once opened you will see a number of shiny flat disks; that's where computer data is stored. These disks can be taken off by unscrewing the securing screws. If you choose to take out the rare-earth neodymium magnets take great care since they're very powerful and can easily nip a fingertip!

If you really want to make sure that your data is totally ruined then you definitely need to destroy the disk or disks removed from the hard drive housing. You could cut or break them however , make sure you use eye and hand protection as they will often crack into many sharp pieces.

At least if you destroy the disk or disks platters then you know definitely that your data is completely beyond the reach of an id crook. However, you must use care since you can very easily injure yourself if you are not careful in the deconstruction of the old hard disk.

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Graham Kelly is a seasoned writer with many years experience with restoring damaged laptops. He has been involved in the electronic and computing industries for almost all of his working life and may be got in contact with at Trilogic uk ltd click a laptop motherboard repair or a repair USB.

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