

# Ten Reasons to Defrag Disk Drives Cheat Sheet by [deleted] via cheatography.com/2754/cs/11028/

#### Introduction

Files on your computer can either be fragmented, like newspaper articles, or unfragmented, like a book. Over time, more and more files become fragmented. When a file is fragmented, it takes longer for the computer to read it because it has to skip to different sections of the hard disk drive.

Defragmentation is a process that rearranges and reassembles your files on your hard disk

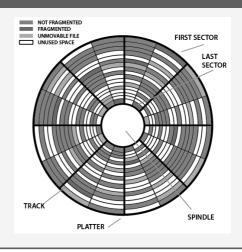
#### Reasons

- 1. Defragging provides more "up time" by saving your machines from excessive drive head activity. This extends hardware life another 1-2 years.
- 2. Savvy VARs have defragmenters on their servers not just for the margins, but because they can't afford not to. Those on service contracts lose money each and every time they take a Support call. And many of those calls are from fragmentation related issues like system slows or even drive failures. Defragging eliminates those calls altogether.
- 3. One file one scan. One thousand fragmented files one thousand scans. Thus defragging cuts long anti-virus scans nearly in half. The same applies to back up times. It's a simple numbers game: the more fragmentation you have, the more you suffer.
- **4.** Load times for Office docs like Word, Excel and Outlook show a hefty return in speed after defragging. Boot times can also be sped up by defragging the MFT file. And even web browsing is sped up 2 3X from a good defrag of the Internet cache. Remember, the more fragmentation you have, the more you suffer.
- **5.** Defragging busy file/SQL/Exchange servers increases network traffic speeds by freeing up I/O bottlenecks.
- **6.** A defragmenter is the most inexpensive performance enhancement you can make—far cheaper than memory or hardware upgrades.
- 7. Even when you have the fastest CPU and memory available—a machine's performance is negatively affected by fragmentation. Why? Because the disk drive is still the slowest component in a computer. And as the saying goes, "A computer is only as fast as its slowest component." Defragging the drive is thus essential to all computers, old and new.
- **8.** Automatic defraggers make your job easier by taking the guesswork out of scheduling.
- **9.** The tenth and possibly best reason to defrag is your time. Your free time, your family time and your work time. So to spend your time on better things, embrace an automatic defragger.

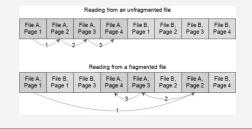
## Reasons (cont)

10. Server virtualization may reduce the number of physical systems for more efficient CPU utilization. But think about it: consolidating five servers into one means you'll have 5X the traffic and 5X the levels of fragmentation now taking place on a single server. So to keep that virtual machine from joining the Titanic, routine defragging is essential to optimum performance and uptime.

## Defragmented



## **Reading and Fragmentation**





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