

Formatting an External Hard Drive to Work Seamlessly Between Mac + PC

MAC:

1. Open disk Utility on your Mac. ...
2. Select the drive you wish to format.
3. Select the "Erase" tab in Disk Utility.
4. Select MS-DOS (FAT) from the drop down box.
5. Click Erase and follow the prompts.
6. Let it finish, and you're done.

PC:

1. Plug the disk into a Windows Vista SP1 or Windows 7 computer.
2. Open the Computer window.
3. Right click on the drive, and select Format.
4. Select exFAT from the drop down box, and click on Start.
5. Select exFAT from the drop down box, and click on Start.

****NOTE**:** Formatting Drives exFat Using Mac -

Not compatible with older operating systems. You must have Mac OS X 10.6.5 or newer, and PCs need to be Windows Vista SP1, Windows 7, or newer.

There were some problems getting a Mac formatted exFAT drive working with Windows, it had trouble recognizing those drives. It appears the issue has since been fixed and disks formatted exFAT on OS X 10.7 (Lion) and 10.8 (Mountain Lion) are working with Windows. Mac instructions above will now work for exFAT. I will leave Windows instructions below for the benefit of Windows users.