
Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by gurulogic - 2011/02/27 09:16

Out of the complete blue I just lost the card that came with the OT. I loaded up a project and none of the play trigs were visible and the scale settings were reset so I shut the OT down and that was it, invalid MBR and my computer wants to format it when I plug it in. Fortunately I have up to date backups on my computer so I didn't lose anything too important. Strongly recommended!!!

Is this the OT fucking up or the Transcend card? I have been mounting and unmounting the card quite a lot today. I also had a bunk save earlier when making a new project, I ended up with three empty folders named as the project, hmmm.

Ok, well reformat and test media then contact Elektron I guess...

edit: "Windows was unable to complete the format" So I guess the card is toast? Lame soup!

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by gurulogic - 2011/02/27 09:53

Found a 512 MB Sandisk Ultra II and popped it in, no problem yet. So many people have had problems with the included card, yikes!

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Audiolog - 2011/02/27 19:22

The exact same happen to the my transcend card that came with my octatrack. Invalid MBR. tried every way to format but keeps getting the "windows was unable to format" on PC and MAC just freezes. Had to buy a new card.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by KryoSift - 2011/02/27 20:32

I've never had issues with Transcend products before, but the number of users having card issues is pretty large. Maybe it was a bad batch of cards?

Have you people experiencing card death been emailing Elektron in case it IS the Octatrack's OS that is borking the cards?

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by gurulogic - 2011/02/28 02:24

Yes, I have contacted Elektron about the card and specifcily asked if they believe it to be the fault of the card or the OT. Would be nice to know if the OT has any chance of killing my \$200 card that is on order. I am personally guessing crap media from Transcend.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by ipassenger - 2011/02/28 20:05

gurulogic wrote:

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visible and the scale settings were reset so I shut the OT down and that was it, invalid MBR and my computer wants to format it when I plug it in. Fortunately I have up to date backups on my computer so I didn't lose anything too important. Strongly recommended!!!

Is this the OT fucking up or the Transcend card? I have been mounting and unmounting the card quite a lot today. I also had a bunk save earlier when making a new project, I ended up with three empty folders named as the project, hmmm.

Ok, well reformat and test media then contact Elektron I guess...

edit: "Windows was unable to complete the format" So I guess the card is toast? Lame soup!

This is pretty much what happened to mine.. Managed to format the card eventually through another external card reader but adding or removing files from the card is slower than forever, the card is nailed.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by ipassenger - 2011/02/28 23:29

Audiolog wrote:

The exact same happen to the my transcend card that came with my octatrack. Invalid MBR. tried every way to format but keeps getting the "windows was unable to format" on PC and MAC just freezes. Had to buy a new card.

Have you had this with any other cards since?

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by autogen - 2011/03/05 06:50

I had similar issues with the 64GB Transcend card I bought. Disk Utility wouldn't format the card when it was mounted in the OT, just froze every time.

So I bought a £15 card reader and tried that instead. It formatted the card fine first time and (fingers crossed) it seems to be working now. Transfer speeds don't seem to be too bad, and projects load fairly quickly.

I seem to get weird issues when trying to copy any samples on to the card when it's mounted in the OT still though. It always seems to think that some of the folders I am copying already exist and I have to copy files across in small groups or folder by folder as a result. Again though, the cheap card reader lets me copy across with no problems.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by darenager - 2011/03/05 07:50

Can everyone who has had this problem state if it was by using the OT in USB mode or with a card reader - I have had no problems using a card reader.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by gurulogic - 2011/03/05 11:01

I can't say that it had anything to do with using the OT in USB mode, which I do. File transfer, although USB 1.1 slow always worked fine. Windows 7-

Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Orange City - 2011/05/18 08:31

Same thing happened to be just now with the transcend 4gb flash card that comes with the octatrack - invalid mbr. Should i be looking to buy a card reader with my new flash card?

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Veets - 2011/05/18 09:09

No problems with Transcend here - 100% card reader.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by rennweg - 2011/05/19 05:23

Orange City wrote:

Same thing happened to be just now with the transcend 4gb flash card that comes with the octatrack - invalid mbr. Should i be looking to buy a card reader with my new flash card?

Yepp, get a card reader. I got one early, because I had problems as well and since then I am using my card reader all the time for everything. Anyone should do, but I got a little more expensive one from sandisk with firewire connection. It is really much faster, especially if you do regular backups, but it depends on your budget.
A new CF card is needed as well. Many people had problems with the original card, including myself.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by ubiquitous - 2011/05/19 08:48

Heya,
It's probably a fault of the card or a fault of the user.

Fault of the card, send it to trendmicro for service. I never heard of trendmicro till it came included with my OT, not sure how reliabe they are!

Fault of the user: please be sure that you eject the card from the os of the computer the OT is connected to, otherwise you can get a usb power spike that could static fault the card (let alone anything else on the OT / connected device). Also, if the card isn't fully inserted when you power on the OT, could result in static discharge.

Can you (anyone with this mbr issue) explain what happened prior and what happened at the time of failure?

Could also be issues with grounding or power surges, hope you guys and gals have the OT connected to a true power transformer, not a glorified rack mount power bar... and that no other high load device on its own start up cycle is connected on the same circuit!

Ubiquitous.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by metallum - 2011/12/26 21:35

Mine is broken too...invalid mbr...

Dont know why, I powered OT on and it says tahat I have wrong card..Suddenly!

I plugged (old) 256mb sandisk instead to try whats wrong... and OT and mac dont see each other via USB. I can load samples through a card reader,but no more through OT USB.And sometimes when loading presets it freezes.

What I have to do? Return broken card, return OT (is USB damaged?), try newer card?
I made all resets, formats, and upgrades, but it still doesnt work.
Why on Christmas???????????????? when I wanted to spend some free time and learn OT :(

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by ntothe - 2011/12/26 21:58

mine died about five days since I got my OT, so I didn't have a reason to do a backup... I was just getting acquainted with the machine, so no proper songs got lost, but the whole loopmasters collection got iced.
elektron promised to replace the card but I got a lexar 200x anyway and I'm happy with it.

If I remember right, there was a strange thing going on prior to the card's breakdown: when i turned the OT on, every now and then it entered demo mode even though the card was always in.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by AikiGhost - 2011/12/27 01:42

I have lost or had to revert back to previous saves on my PCs hard disk because of file failures on the supplied flash card. Not good enough, elektron seriously need to source a better quality card.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Indigo333 - 2011/12/27 02:21

Could those of you who have been successful with your card and card reader post a specific link, pwease:blush: of the exact card and card reader you are using? It would help big-time and instead of spending 100-200 more dollars, a str8 shot to a line of successful runs from others would be supportive and greatly appreciated...best, indi

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by sempervirent - 2011/12/27 03:28

AikiGhost wrote:

I have lost or had to revert back to previous saves on my PCs hard disk because of file failures on the supplied flash card. Not good enough, elektron seriously need to source a better quality card.

Don't forget to back up your backup (on your PC).

In my "Octatrouble" thread I described some problems with a recently purchased OT. Some people suggested that it was the CF card but I also tried a Sandisk Ultra card that was bought in the last six months and the problem was exactly the same. That would indicate that it's not necessarily the off-brand CF card causing the problem, but could instead be a problem with the OT itself.

Lots of time, money, credibility, reputation, all at risk due to glitches like this. Who wants to travel to a show and step on stage to see "INVALID MBR" on the screen? I thought people were supposed to get paid to be beta testers, not the other way around.

FWIW the machine I got (and returned) was manufactured ten months ago. I think Indigo333's suggestion is a good one. But I also think we should take inventory of the manufacture date of machines that have memory problems. I started a new thread.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by metallum - 2011/12/27 03:31

I'm gonna buy tommorow new card....cause my old 256 acts strange,
USB doesnt see it on MAC and static maschine works only for three tracks...
I assume that I need new one faster....
USB works with my broken (MAC see it) card so OT should be ok

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by N_Rain - 2011/12/27 04:30

I have since been using a Lexar Professional 400x CompactFlash - 8GB in each of my OT's with no problem. Also, in the latest OS my problems with a very affordable PixelFlash 600x 64 GB (ebay retailer) card have been completely resolved so I have good hope for this brand, it seems very good quality for the price.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by SecondChance - 2011/12/27 09:47

If you see a cheap price for a CF card, it might be a fake lower capacity one with the firmware hacked. Loads of fake USB sticks out there, so it might be the same for CF. In my experience with fake USB, its works until a capacity limit is exceeded and then it is useless. Suddenly and irreparable. Sound familiar? :(

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by smokyfrog - 2011/12/28 22:28

My invalid mbr was with a Lexar 16Gb card after data transfer via card reader.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by smokyfrog - 2011/12/28 22:35

Update:
Elektron were able to give me some cool advice that has worked in this case. What I did was an empty reset (from the early startup menu) and then the card was seen as before, I didn't have to do anything. So it looks like my worries about the card being toast are gone and it's something solveable in the OS.

A happy camper again. Hope the info of some use to someone else. Love and peace :)

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Paiheu - 2012/03/12 23:16

Suddenly, same INVALID MBR problem here... Tried the reset thing, didn't work.
Does anyone has a solution, or shall I accept that I just lost 5 months of hard work, just three weeks away from a very important concert?

:(

edit: Trying various recovery softwares and tricks now, but nothing... that really, really sucks.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Peza - 2012/03/13 19:23

Same here, just happened last night...not good:(

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by N_Rain - 2012/03/14 05:49

Paiheu wrote:

Suddenly, same INVALID MBR problem here... Tried the reset thing, didn't work.

Does anyone has a solution, or shall I accept that I just lost 5 months of hard work, just three weeks away from a very important concert?

:(

Without making any sort of regular backup of your files!? I sympathize, but that is your fault more than anything. It doesn't matter if it is a CF card, a CD or a computer hard drive you should always keep a backup of anything that you aren't willing to lose in the blink of an eye!

0's and 1's are fickle things..

That being said, if you can try a different CF card reader but chances are the card is toast.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Paiheu - 2012/03/14 09:50

Yeah, I know, backups....

I bought a new Sandisk card yesterday, re-loaded the sample-packs I had on the PC, made one new track already. Better see this as an opportunity for a fresh start ;)

Does anyone has a dropbox or a download link for the Elektron/Loopmasters factory loaded samples?

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Paiheu - 2012/03/14 18:24

Got a reply from Elektron on this issue. They asked me to send by my card for failure analysis, and will ship me a replacement.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by vvlkk - 2012/12/03 02:21

Gah! Just had one of these 'invalid mbr's. Possibly due to the fact that I loaded too much into flex machine slots? Maybe? Will order a new card as I have shows next weekend. Did elektron ever get back to anyone about why this happens?

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by Computer Controlled - 2013/02/04 04:51

This just happened to me. Transferred some samples over from my PC and it all went haywire. I tried the Empty Reset option, didn't work. PC won't even see the disc via USB. Looks like this card is toast.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by crixmadine - 2013/02/15 13:05

I'm another one that just got hit with the "Invalid MBR" and can't read the card any more nor mount it from OSX. Luckily I have a fairly recent backup.

Has there been anything definitive about what is causing this yet? I guess I have no choice but to take my chances buying another CF card in hopes I don't brick it. Lexar, Sandisk, card speed? What is recommend?

thx,
-cm

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by N_Rain - 2013/02/15 15:02

I have been using Lexar and Pixelflash since my first card failure with no issue. Really it's just the stock card that I recall seeing anyone having any issue with so I guess besides backing your sh*t up the next best guess might be to not continue depending on the stock sandisk card.

As far as speed goes, the only difference may be in the speed of transfers to and from your computer using a higher speed card on an external card reader and maybe a slightly perceivable file operations speed on the OT . Honestly though I haven't bothered to benchmark the transfer speeds to/from the OT in recent OS's so can't say for sure if a higher spec card will make a difference here.

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Re:Wow! Invalid MBR. Back Your Sh*t Up!

Posted by crixmadine - 2013/02/16 02:06

N_Rain, thanks for the response and advice! The card that was originally shipped with my OT was Transcend. Sounds like others have had the same issue with that card. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that this is an issue caused by the card and not the OT itself.

cheers,
-cm

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