

## External hard disks--avoid "media offline"

Posted by shaunthesheep - 14 Feb 2013 10:52

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External hard disks have their uses but a frequent problem is that Windows assigns a different drive letter to them after inserting flash memory sticks or SD cards. And this can result in "media offline" in Lightworks.

To avoid this happening, it is possible to assign a drive letter to an external drive that minimises the chances of this happening. Choose a drive letter high in the alphabet e.g. "P". This leaves the lower letters of the alphabet free for assignment to removable flash memory sticks and SD disks which should leave your external media storage drive unchanged.

See link in briandrys's post below for instructions on how to do this.

Note: this post has been edited as a result of feedback from subsequent posts.

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## Re: External hard disks--assign a permanent drive letter to them to avoid "media offline"

Posted by briandrys - 14 Feb 2013 11:10

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What's the advantage of the registry method compared to this method [windows.microsoft.com/en-GB/windows-vista/Change-add-or-remove-a-drive-letter](http://windows.microsoft.com/en-GB/windows-vista/Change-add-or-remove-a-drive-letter)

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You can also do this with Windows 7 & XP.

I've added the links:

[windows.microsoft.com/en-GB/windows7/Change-add-or-remove-a-drive-letter](http://windows.microsoft.com/en-GB/windows7/Change-add-or-remove-a-drive-letter)

[support.microsoft.com/kb/307844](http://support.microsoft.com/kb/307844)

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Re: External hard disks--assign a permanent drive letter to them to avoid "media offline"

Posted by shaunthesheep - 14 Feb 2013 11:39

@briandrys. Those are instructions for changing a drive letter but I am not sure if they create a permanent drive letter. Next time you insert a thumb drive or SD card, it may change again. (?)

Re: External hard disks--assign a permanent drive letter to them to avoid "media offline"

Posted by rhinox202 - 14 Feb 2013 15:01

The methods listed above do the exact thing. That is, if you change the drive letter using briandrys' method, it changes the exact same registry entry as shaunthesheep's method. The reason the poster recommends using a higher letter in the alphabet is because drives are automatically assigned letters starting with D. A and B are reserved for floppy drives (who uses them?) and C is usually the System Drive. As such, neither solution is permanent, they just provide a buffer between the automatic assignment of letters.

Re: External hard disks--assign a permanent drive letter to them to avoid "media offline"

Posted by shaunthesheep - 14 Feb 2013 15:05

@rhinox. Thanks for your input. So, no need to manually change the registry then. I have edited the OP accordingly.

Re: External hard disks--assign a permanent drive letter to them to avoid "media offline"

Posted by Schloime - 15 Feb 2013 13:54

Shaun, got your message.

That's exactly what I do. Just change it in computer management, as described on the links above.

It works for me, and as rhinox said, I use higher letters just to avoid windows taking letters away from me while booting.

Does it work for you?

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## Re: External hard disks--assign a permanent drive letter to them to avoid "media offline"

Posted by shaunthesheep - 15 Feb 2013 14:44

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@Schloime. So far it appears to be working. Thanks for responding.

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## Re: External hard disks--avoid "media offline"

Posted by mahtay - 07 Sep 2015 01:44

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What do you do once you have changed the drive letter and the 'media offline' tag is still there? Can you simply change the source letter in Lightworks or do you need to come back to the external letter and change it back each time?

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## Re: External hard disks--avoid "media offline"

Posted by briandrys - 24 May 2017 10:57

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For further info on media location management, there is a video tutorial:

For Windows users Project Fixer may be of assistance.

[www.lwks.com/index.php?option=com\\_kunena&func=view&catid=23&id=99170&Itemid=81#ftop](http://www.lwks.com/index.php?option=com_kunena&func=view&catid=23&id=99170&Itemid=81#ftop)

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## Re: External hard disks--avoid "media offline"

Posted by joedenly - 18 Mar 2019 02:33

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[Fix Error code 0X0070002](#) adding external harddisk helped me to store more data and getting benefited from this, helped me in the installation process.

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