

Recover deleted or damaged files from a storage device using Test Disk

```
kali@kali: ~  
File Actions Edit View Help  
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ sudo apt update  
sudo apt install testdisk  
[sudo] password for kali:  
Hit:1 http://http.kali.org/kali kali-rolling InRelease  
867 packages can be upgraded. Run 'apt list --upgradable' to see them.  
testdisk is already the newest version (7.2-0.1).  
Summary:  
  Upgrading: 0, Installing: 0, Removing: 0, Not Upgrading: 867  
(kali@kali)-[~]  
$ sudo photorec  
█
```

```
kali@kali: ~  
File Actions Edit View Help  
PhotoRec 7.2, Data Recovery Utility, February 2024  
Christophe GRENIER <grenier@cgsecurity.org>  
https://www.cgsecurity.org  
  
PhotoRec is free software, and  
comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.  
  
Select a media and choose 'Proceed' using arrow keys:  
>Disk /dev/sda - 86 GB / 80 GiB (RO) - VMware Virtual S  
  
>[Proceed] [ Quit ]  
  
Note:  
Disk capacity must be correctly detected for a successful recovery.  
If a disk listed above has an incorrect size, check HD jumper settings and BI  
detection, and install the latest OS patches and disk drivers.
```

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Disk /dev/sda - 86 GB / 80 GiB (R0) - VMware Virtual S  
  
Partition      Start      End      Size in sectors  
No partition    0  0  1 10455 145 40 167968750 [Whole disk]  
> 1 * Linux      0 32 33 10455 145 40 167966702 [root]  
  
> [ Search ] [Options] [File Opt] [ Quit ]  
Start file recovery
```

```
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1 * Linux      0 32 33 10455 145 40 167966702 [root]  
  
To recover lost files, PhotoRec needs to know the filesystem type where the  
file were stored:  
[ ext2/ext3 ] ext2/ext3/ext4 filesystem  
> [ Other ] FAT/NTFS/HFS+/ReiserFS/ ...
```

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1 * Linux 0 32 33 10455 145 40 167966702 [root]  
  
Please choose if all space needs to be analysed:  
>[ Free ] Scan for file from ext2/ext3 unallocated space only  
[ Whole ] Extract files from whole partition
```

```
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PhotoRec 7.2, Data Recovery Utility, February 2024  
  
Please select a destination to save the recovered files to.  
Do not choose to write the files to the same partition they were stored on.  
Keys: Arrow keys to select another directory  
      C when the destination is correct  
      Q to quit  
Directory /home/kali  
>drwxr-xr-x 1000 1000 4096 27-Aug-2025 12:09 Documents  
drwxr-xr-x 1000 1000 4096 27-Aug-2025 12:09 Downloads  
drwxr-xr-x 1000 1000 4096 27-Aug-2025 12:09 Music  
drwxr-xr-x 1000 1000 4096 31-Aug-2025 00:09 Pictures  
drwxr-xr-x 1000 1000 4096 27-Aug-2025 12:09 Public  
drwxr-xr-x 1000 1000 4096 27-Aug-2025 12:09 Templates  
drwxr-xr-x 1000 1000 4096 27-Aug-2025 12:09 Videos  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:02 recup_dir.1  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.10  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.100  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.101  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.102  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.103  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.104  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.105  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.106  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.107  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.108  
drwxr-xr-x 0 0 20480 31-Aug-2025 00:03 recup_dir.109  
Next
```

```
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Disk /dev/sda - 86 GB / 80 GiB (RO) - VMware Virtual S  
Partition      Start      End      Size in sectors  
1 * Linux      0 32 33 10455 145 40 167966702 [root]  
  
Destination /home/kali/recup_dir  
  
Pass 1 - Reading sector 1855504/167966702, 450 files found  
Elapsed time 0h00m30s - Estimated time to completion 0h44m45  
txt: 221 recovered  
png: 110 recovered  
tx?: 61 recovered  
pdf: 25 recovered  
exe: 15 recovered  
zip: 5 recovered  
gz: 3 recovered  
elf: 2 recovered  
gif: 2 recovered  
others: 6 recovered  
Stop
```

```
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Disk /dev/sda - 86 GB / 80 GiB (RO) - VMware Virtual S  
Partition      Start      End      Size in sectors  
1 * Linux      0 32 33 10455 145 40 167966702 [root]  
  
942994 files saved in /home/kali/recup_dir directory.  
Recovery completed.  
  
You are welcome to donate to support and encourage further development  
https://www.cgsecurity.org/wiki/Donation  
  
[ Quit ]
```