4D Systems

Application Note: 4D-AN-1001

Partitioning a micro-SD into FAT and RAW Components

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Description

This Application Note is a step by step procedure on how to partition a micro-SD memory card into FAT and RAW formats. For this Application you will need;

- micro-SD (µSD) card
- Windows based PC
- RMPET Software Tool

Application Overview

Before undertaking a partition of your µSD card, it is important to understand why you would want to do this. As an end user, you may want to load files of varying formats onto the µSD card, to then display on the screen. The FAT section on the µSD card is the region where these files will be stored. However, you may want a different section where raw data will need to be stored, such as data logging applications.

Setup Procedure

RMPET Software Tool

Firstly, you will need to download a software tool from the 4D Systems website called **RMPET** (Removable Media Partition Edit Tool):

http://www.4dsystems.com.au/prod.php?id=86

Insert the µSD card into the computer and open the RMPET software.

Selecting the Correct Drive

Click the drop down in the top left hand corner next to 'Physical Drive' and select the drive that represents your µSD. Your device should be displayed across the top of the tool, showing the capacity of the device. Compare this with the µSD card to ensure you have selected the correct drive. I.e. if you inserted a 2GB card, you should see roughly 1.8GB capacity.
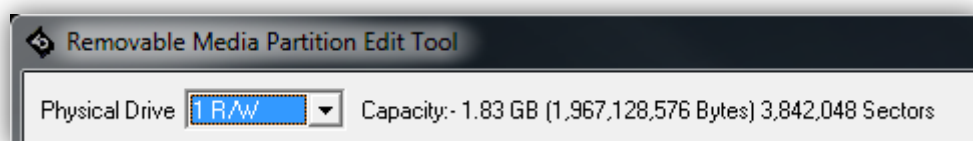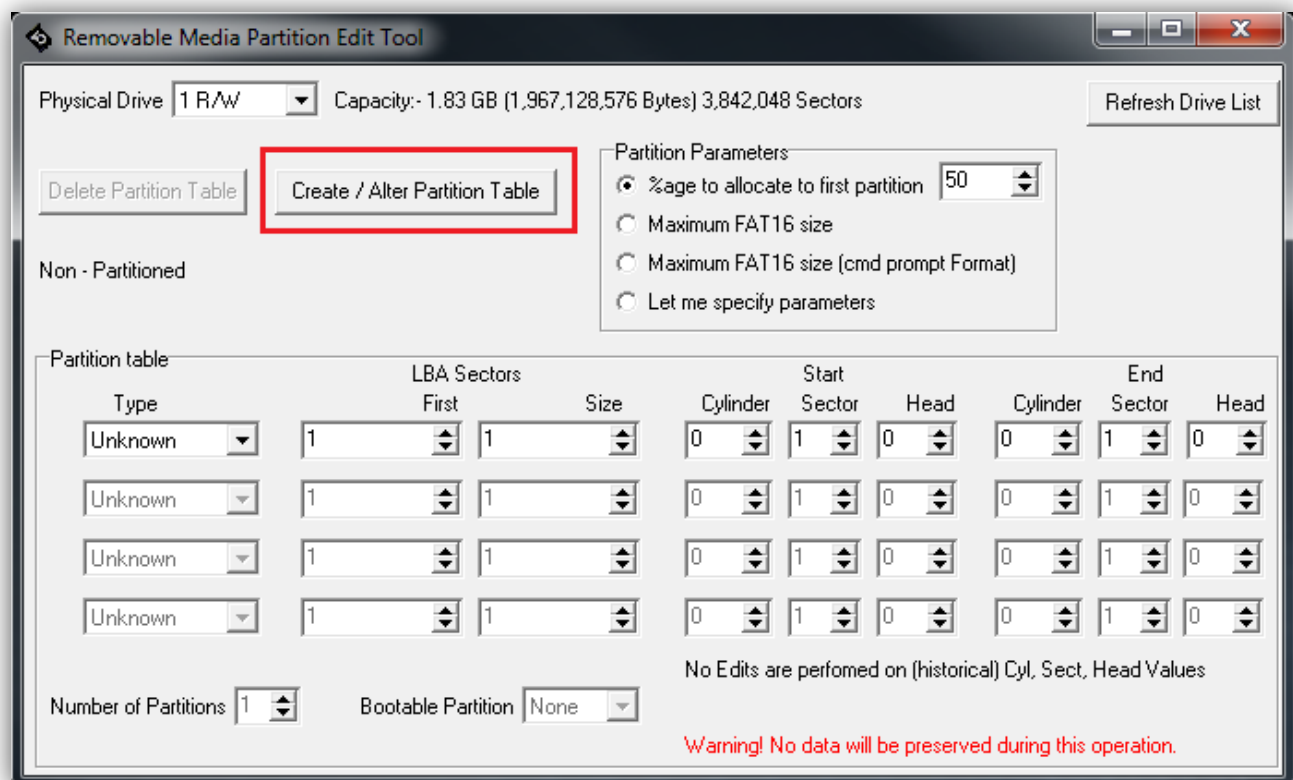
Memory Space Allocation

Now you need to allocate the percentage of available memory space for the partition. The example shows 50% allocation.
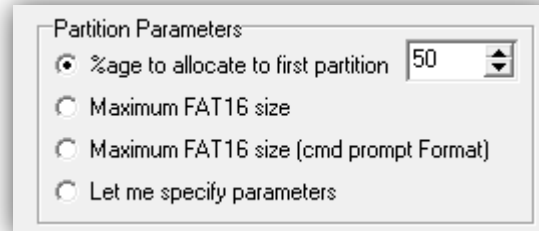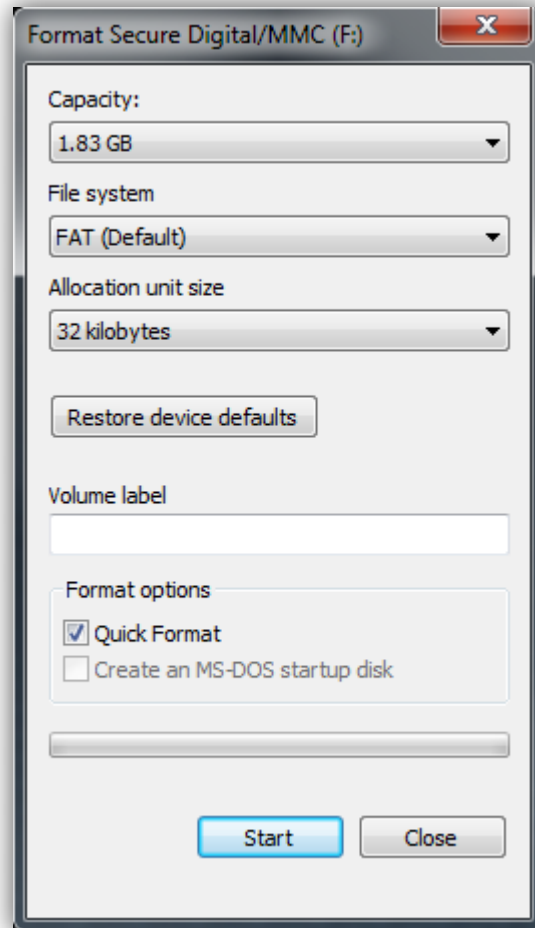

Executing the Partition

The final step is to execute the partition by clicking 'Create / Alter Partition Table.

Formatting the Partitioned µSD

Your computer will prompt you to format the µSD card. Do so and notice that only half of the space is available for formatting. Format the card in FAT (Default) format.

Your µSD card is now successfully partitioned into 50% FAT and 50% RAW components.

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