How to reformat your hard drive

So you may find yourself one day needing to reformat, or low level format your hard drive so that you can erase whatever issues you are experiencing with your computer.

A quick and easy way to do that would be to download just about any Linux distro (personally I use Linux Mint) and burn it to a bootable USB (I recommend https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjyV_DTB6jMany sandisk 4gigs or bigger), or a bootable CD/DVD.

From there you will boot into your Linux distro and go to the command-line / terminal and use the dd command to low-level format your drive.

How to use the dd command to wipe a disk in Linux Mint Live CD
first, find the drives you want to erase/wipe -

```
#run the lsblk command per example below
user@computer:~$ lsblk
NAME        MAJ:MIN RM   SIZE RO TYPE MOUNTPOINTS
lsda         8:0    1     0B  0 disk
sdb          8:16   1   125G  0 disk
 └─sdb1       8:17   1   125G  0 part /media/mxwil/128GIG
nvme0n1     259:0    0 238.5G  0 disk
 ├─nvme0n1p1 259:1    0   512M  0 part /boot/efi
 └─nvme0n1p2 259:2    0   238G  0 part /
```

Locate your hard drive (usually I look for it by the size of the drive)

Next run the dd command -
```
# dd if=/dev/urandom of=/dev/Disk_To_Wipe bs=1M
```

This command will take some time to run, so you might need to wait a while, and you won't get any feedback or progress telling you what the dd command is doing, so when it's done, it's done.

The prompt will go back to normal when the dd command is completed, from there you can go ahead and install your Operating System of choice.

For a link to the video where I explain this in detail, go to -
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjyV_DTB6jM