

Hard Drive for FVP Production Courses

This document will help you choose an external hard drive and format it correctly for video and audio production in FVP courses.

Part I. – Choosing A Hard Drive

	Storage Type	Interface	Capacity	Price (approx)
Good	Hard Disk Drive	USB 3	2 TB	\$70
Best	SSD	USB 3.1	1 TB	\$110

IMPORTANT: Our computers now only have USB-C ports. If your hard drive has a cable that connects with the older USB type, you will need to bring an adapter. These can be purchased in the GVSU Bookstore or from online vendors for approx. \$10.



Shooting Video directly to SSD

Some video cameras include the ability to record directly to a SSD drive instead of an SD card. We recommend using a dedicated SSD drive for these applications. A 1TB SSD drive costs approximately \$110 and typically connects via USB-C cables. NOTE: Avoid using a drive for both camera and editing or you may lose files.



Part II. – Formatting Your Hard Drive

Formatting your hard drive for Macintosh use

If you plan to use your drive primarily on Mac computers, we recommend using the **APFS** format. This will give you the best performance and file safety.

Mac & PC

If you need to use your hard drive on both a Mac and PC, choose the **exFAT** format. **Do not use the MS-DOS FAT 32 format**

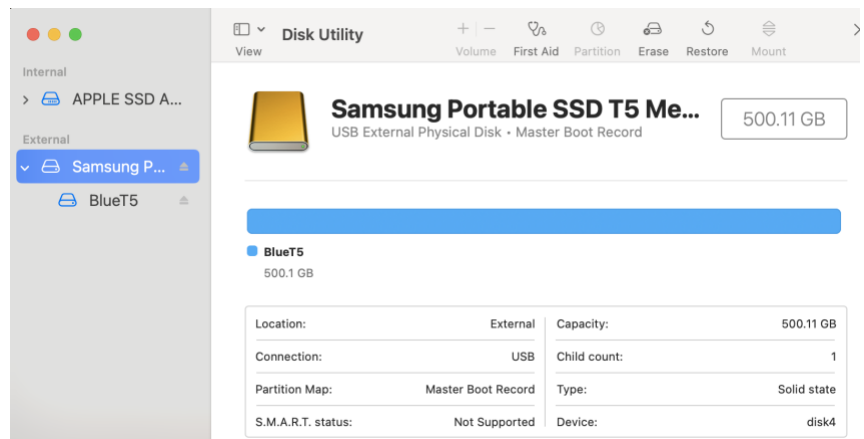
CAUTION: Re-formatting requires erasing the contents of the drive. Back-up any documents before you re-format.

Follow the steps below...

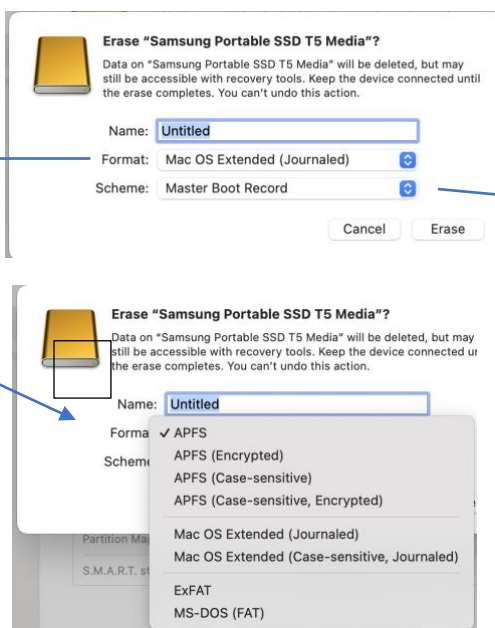
Formatting Your Hard Drive on a Mac

CAUTION: this will erase any files already on the drive.

- 1) Connect your disk to the Mac computer.
- 2) Quit all other programs while you do this procedure.
- 3) Click on the GO menu at the top of the screen and choose UTILITIES. Alternatively you can find the Utilities folder within the Applications folder on the internal *Macintosh HD*.
- 4) Open the program, DISK UTILITY.
- 5) Select the disk for re-formatting in the list on the left. Make sure you select the Disk rather than its volume. In the picture below we have selected the disk named "Samsung P..." Its volume is named "BlueT5." When you have the disk properly selected, its information is displayed in the lower part of the main window.
- 6) Click the ERASE tab located in the upper middle of the window.
- 7) Click on the Scheme menu and select GUID Partition Map.
- 8) Click on the Format menu and select APFS.
- 9) Type a name for the disk or volume.
- 9) Click Erase.



Step 8



Step 7

