ASUS Drive Xpert

Drive Xpert, an ASUS exclusive technology, secures the data on your hard disk and enhances hard drive performance without the hassles of complicated configurations. With its user-friendly graphical user interface, you can easily arrange hard drive backups or enhance the hard drive's transfer rate.

Installing Serial ATA hard disks

For using Drive Xpert in Windows® operating system, we recommend that you prepare three hard disks: one hard disk with operating system already installed, and two hard disks for Drive Xpert configuration.

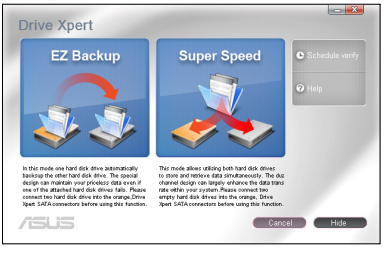
To install Serial ATA hard disks for Drive Xpert configuration:

1. Install two SATA hard disks into the drive bays.
2. Plug one end of the SATA signal cables to each drive, and plug the other end of the SATA signal cables to the SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) and SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connectors on the motherboard. Refer to manual for the exact location of the SATA connectors.
3. Connect a SATA power cable to the power connector of each drive.

- For optimal performance, we highly recommend that you install identical drives of the same model and capacity.
- The SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) and SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connectors on the motherboard do not support ATAPI devices and hot-plug function.

Launching Drive Xpert in Windows® OS

After installing Drive Xpert from the bundled support DVD, double-click the **Drive Xpert** icon on the Windows® notification area. The main screen as shown on the right hand side appears. There are two modes for Drive Xpert: **EZ Backup** and **Super Speed**.



- Before using the Drive Xpert function, ensure that you have installed the Marvell 61xx driver in the system.
- Ensure to install two hard disks to the SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) and SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connectors when the Drive Xpert mode in BIOS setup is configured as **EZ Backup** or **Super Speed**. Otherwise, the HDD LED in the front panel flashes.

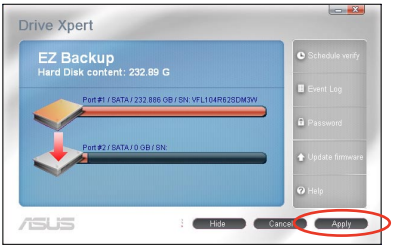
Configuring EZ Backup

This mode allows one hard disk to backup the other hard disk automatically. This helps you to save your vital data even if one hard disk is damaged.

- We recommend that you use two new hard disks for this setup.
- This setup erases all original data in the hard disk connected to the SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connector on the motherboard. Ensure to back up the data in the hard disk before using this setup.

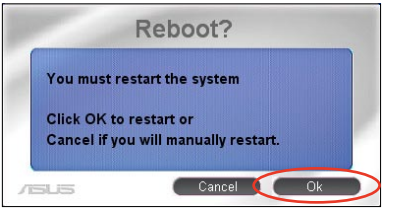
To start **EZ Backup** configuration:

1. Click **EZ Backup** from the main screen.
2. Click **Apply** to start configuration.



3. A warning message appears, reminding you that all original data in the hard disk connected to the SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connector on the motherboard will be erased. Click **Ok** to continue.

4. The setup is completed. Click **Ok** to restart your computer at once.



5. After restarting your computer, the **Drive Xpert** icon on the Windows® notification area turns green to indicate that **EZ Backup** is set up successfully.

Configuring Super Speed

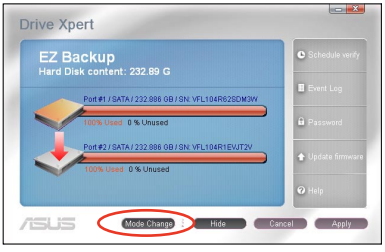
This mode allows two hard disks to access data simultaneously. The dual channel design can largely enhance hard disk transfer rate.

- We recommend that you use two new hard disks for this setup.
- This setup erases all original data in both hard disks. Ensure to back up all data in the hard disks before using this setup.

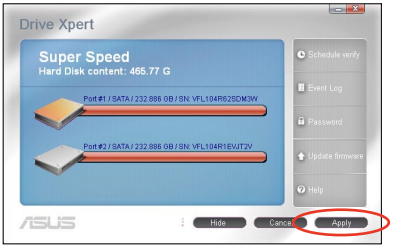
To start **Super Speed** configuration:

1. Click **Super Speed** from the main screen.

If you are in **EZ Backup** mode, click **Mode Change** to return to the main screen.



2. Click **Apply** to start configuration.



3. A warning message appears, reminding you that all original data in the two hard disks will be erased. Click **Ok** to continue.
4. The setup is completed. Click **Ok** to restart your computer at once.

5. After restarting your computer, the **Drive Xpert** icon on the Windows® notification area turns green to indicate that **Super Speed** is set up successfully.

If one hard disk is corrupt, all data in both hard disks will be lost.

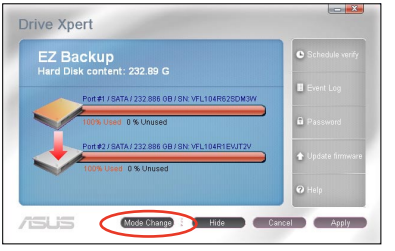
Changing to Normal Mode

This mode allows you to disable the **Drive Xpert** function and use the two SATA connectors as the other onboard SATA connectors.

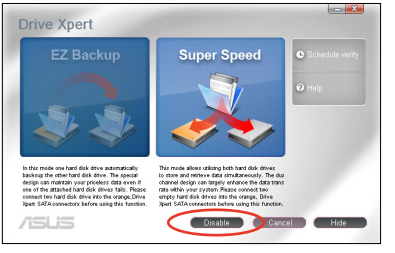
When using one hard disk in **Normal Mode**, connect the hard disk to the SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) connector on the motherboard.

To change to **Normal Mode**:

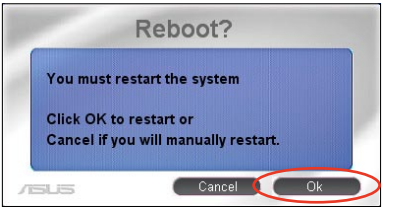
1. Click **Mode Change** to return to the main screen.



2. Click **Disable** to start configuration.



3. The setup is completed. Click **Ok** to restart your computer at once.



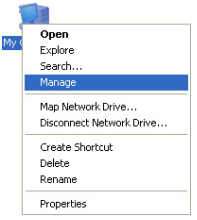
4. After restarting your computer, the **Drive Xpert** icon on the Windows® notification area turns gray to indicate that the **Drive Xpert** function is disabled.

Partitioning volumes

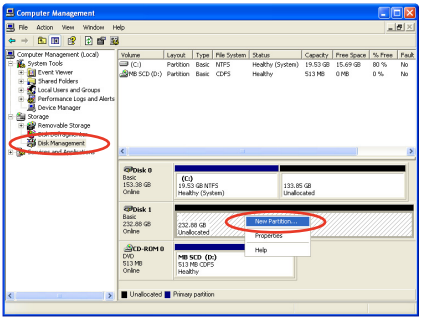
You have to partition volumes for the hard disk after Super Speed configuration.

To partition volumes:

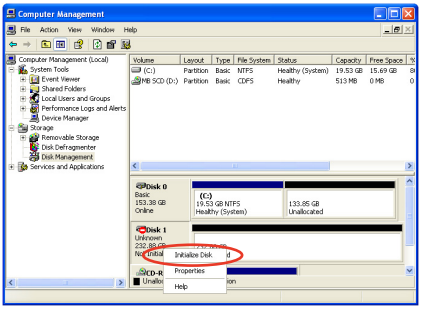
1. Right-click **My Computer** on the Windows® desktop, and then select **Manage** from the pop-up window.



2. Select **Disk Management**. Right-click the unallocated space of the disk, and then select **New Partition**.

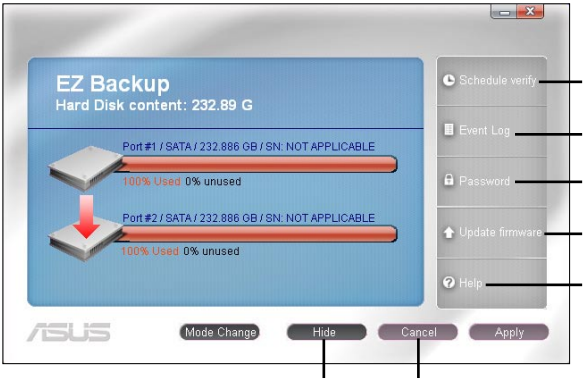


If the **New Partition** option is not available, right-click **Disk** item, and then select **Initialize Disk** to initialize the disk first.



3. A **New Partition Wizard** screen appears. Follow the onscreen instructions to complete the volume partition.

Other feature buttons



Click to open the Schedule Drive Verify window

Click to open the Event Log list

Click to open the Setup Password window

Click to open the Firmware Update window

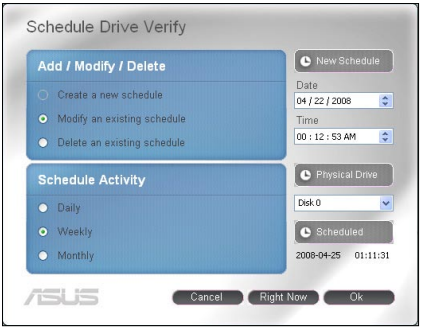
Click to open the Help menu

Click to hide the setup window

Click to return to the previous page

Schedule Drive Verify

Allows you to set up the schedule for verifying the hard disks. Click **Ok** to apply the settings; click **Cancel** to close the window; and click **Right Now** to start verification at once.



Add / Modify / Delete
Allows you to create a new schedule, and modify/delete an existing schedule.

Schedule Activity
Allows you to set verification schedule daily, weekly, or monthly.

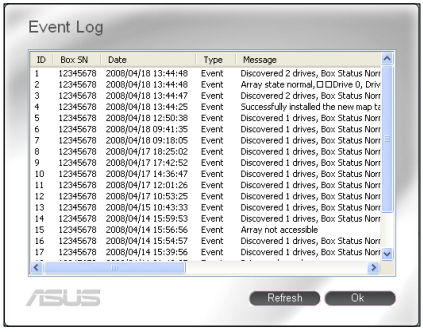
New Schedule
Allows you to set specific date and time for the schedule.

Physical Drive
Allows you to set schedule for the selected hard disk.

Scheduled
Displays the date and time for the setup schedule.

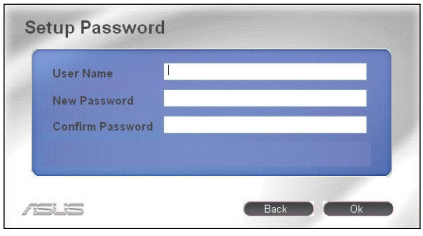
Event Log

Displays event log list that might be helpful for troubleshooting and locating a system malfunction. Click **Refresh** to update the event log list; and click **Ok** to close the window.



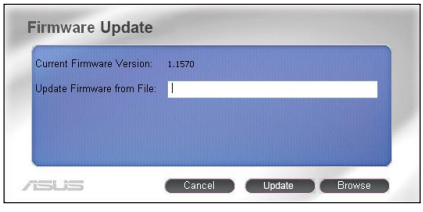
Setup Password

Allows you to set the password for configuration access. Key in the user name and password. Click **Ok** to apply the settings.



Firmware Update

Allows you to update the firmware. Click **Browse** to locate the firmware file that you want to update. Then click **Update** to start the update process.



Using Drive Xpert function in Express Gate SSD environment

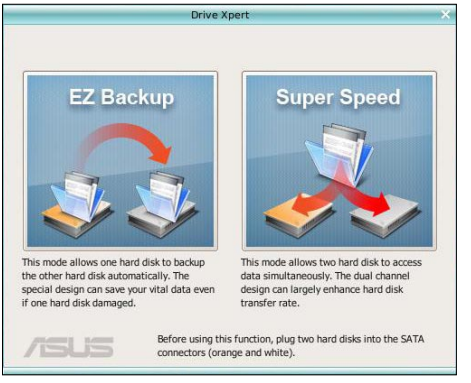
You may use **Drive Xpert** function in Express Gate SSD environment by preparing only two hard disks.

Launching Drive Xpert

To open the ASUS Utility panel, click . Launch Drive Xpert from the ASUS Utility panel. The main screen as shown below appears. Select **EZ Backup** or **Super Speed** according to your need.

Before using the Drive Xpert function, ensure that you have back up all your data in your hard disks.

- **EZ Backup** erases all original data in the hard disk connected to the SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connector on the motherboard.
- **Super Speed** erases all original data in both hard disks.

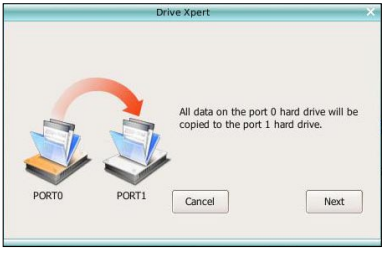


EZ Backup

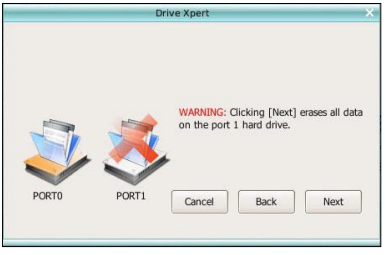
To start **EZ Backup** configuration:

1. Click **EZ Backup** from the main screen.
2. Check if the SATA cables and power cords are installed properly. Click **Next** to continue.

3. Click **Next** to continue the configuration.



4. Before proceeding, ensure that you have back up all original data in the hard disk connected to the SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connector on the motherboard. Otherwise, the system erases all data in the port 1 hard disk. Click **Next** to continue.



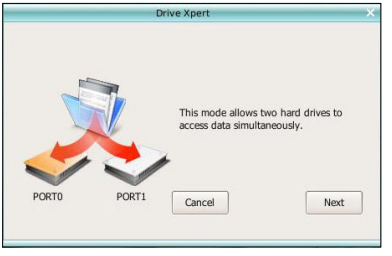
5. The setup is completed. Click **OK** to close the configuration window.

Super Speed

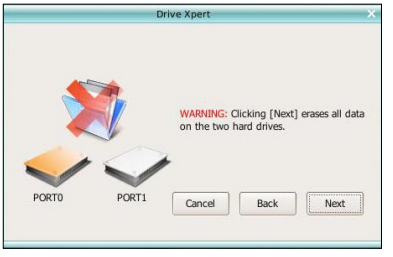
To start **Super Speed** configuration:

1. Click **Super Speed** from the main screen.
2. Check if the SATA cables and power cords are installed properly. Click **Next** to continue.

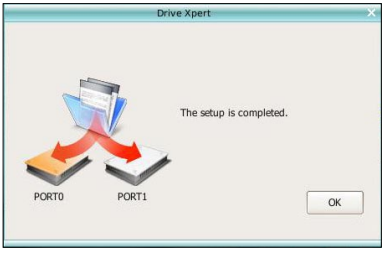
3. Click **Next** to continue the configuration.



4. Before proceeding, ensure to back up all original data in the two hard disks. Otherwise, the system erases all data in both hard disks. Click **Next** to continue.



5. The setup is completed. Click **OK** to close the configuration window.

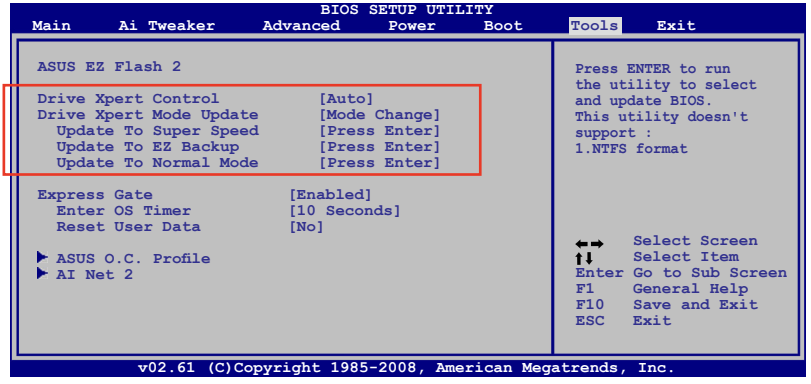


Using Drive Xpert function in BIOS setup environment

You may use Drive Xpert function in BIOS setup environment. To enter BIOS setup, press **DEL** key after powering on. Drive Xpert configuration options are under **Tools** menu.

Before using the Drive Xpert function, ensure that you have back up all your data in your hard disks.

- **EZ Backup** erases all original data in the hard disk connected to the SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connector on the motherboard.
- **Super Speed** erases all original data in both hard disks.



Drive Xpert Control [Auto]

This item allows you to enable or disable the Drive Xpert function. Configuration options: [Auto] [Enabled] [Disabled]

Drive Xpert Mode Update [Last Setting]

This item appears only when you set **Drive Xpert Control** to [Auto] or [Enabled]. Set this item to [Mode Change] to show further settings of the Drive Xpert function. Configuration options: [Last Setting] [Mode Change]

The following items appear only when you set **Drive Xpert Mode Update** to [Mode Change].

Update To Super Speed [Press Enter]

This item allows you to use **Super Speed** function. Plug two identical SATA hard drives in the SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) and SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connectors on the motherboard and press the <Enter> key.

Update To EZ Backup [Press Enter]

This item allows you to use **EZ Backup** function. Plug two identical SATA hard drives in the SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) and SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connectors on the motherboard and press the <Enter> key.

Update To Normal Mode [Press Enter]

This item allows you to use the SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) and SATA_E2 (white, port 1) connectors as normal SATA connectors.

When using one hard disk in **Normal Mode**, connect the hard disk to the SATA_E1 (orange, port 0) connector on the motherboard.