

## **File Recovery In 2018 – Get Your Precious Data Back!**

Lost data is the cause of much stress and suffering, both in personal lives and professional workplaces.

There's a variety of ways that data can be lost. We all know we should be backing our data up, but unfortunately, most people don't truly learn their lesson until they've been burned once (or more!).

Even if you're diligent, there's always a chance you could somehow lose data – perhaps photos don't make it from your camera to your PC, or a colleague unwittingly deletes an important file from a shared server.

### **The Sooner You Notice, the Better**

If you've lost a significant amount of data, the main thing is not to panic. Data *can* be recovered, even if it seems like it's been completely erased!

Fortunately, when data is deleted, it usually still remains on the hard drive until it's overwritten with new data. The sooner you realize your data is lost, the better – the less disk activity that occurs after a data loss, the less likely you are to overwrite the data before recovery.

There are a few different types of file recovery tools on the market, and they all work differently. When considering a tool, ask yourself the following questions regarding its features:

### **File Recovery Tools: Do They Recover Files From External and Non-Bootable Drives?**

If you're looking to recover data held on a drive that your PC doesn't boot from, then you need to make sure your tool can do this. Many free tools are only able to recover files from the hard disk that your PC boots from.

If you want to recover media files from your USB drive, camera or external hard drive, you need a tool that can handle this.

### **Does the Tool Recover From Virtual Volumes?**

Most data recovery tools are designed to recover data from physical drives only. And this is usually fine; most users don't need anything more. However, if you're someone who takes extra care over your privacy, you might be accustomed to using *virtually* connected volumes, such as the encrypted disks generated by programs like TrueCrypt.

If this is you, you most likely place your most sensitive files in such encrypted disks.

In this case, you need your file recovery tool to be able to recover virtually connected volumes just as effectively as physical ones.

## **Does the Software Maintain the Same Folder Structure?**

When you need to recover large amounts of data - gigabytes, or terabytes - it's not only crucial that as much of your data is recovered as possible, but also that the data remain in the same folder structure as it was before the loss.

With directory trees going several levels deep, and potentially thousands of files hanging in the balance, it's essential that data isn't all lumped together in one folder, or even worse, randomly scattered through the folders it was originally well-ordered in. Sorting and re-organizing files into the right structure after a messy recovery can be extremely time consuming.

Not every tool will do it, but try and find one that keeps the data in the same folder structure it was in prior to the loss. Depending on the amount of data you need to recover, this could save you hours of time and effort.

We hope we've convinced you that not all file recovery tools are created equal. There are certainly some quality tools out there, but it pays to do your research. We deliberately included all the key features above in Activ@ File Recovery, alongside many more. We believe it's the leading product in the space, so if you've lost data and urgently need it recovered, we absolutely recommend it to you.