

Important Details about USB Flash Drives

Before the new millennium, the 3¹/₂ floppy disk drive was predominant in the computer industry. It was built into every computer system, both laptop and desktop devices. However, recent technological advancement in the computer industry brought about the use of **USB Flash Drives** which serve as replacements for floppy disk and CD ROM drives. Flash Drives do the same work as the floppy and CD ROM drives, but they have better features than the latter. All the laptops and desktops produced after 2005 do not have any provision for floppy disk drives. The space meant for floppy disk drives have been successfully replaced by USB drives which can be used for Flash and other advanced technology devices.

Size Advantages

With the betterment of technologies, the physical size of computer and other electronic devices has decreased considerably. However, their complexities and qualities have improved as per the changing needs. **USB Flash Drives** are physically smaller in size than floppy disk or CD ROM drives. Reduction in the physical size of electronic devices is a great advantage. Flash drive can be carried in the pocket or hung on the neck due to its small size. The small physical sizes of **USB Flash Drives** do not connote limited disk space. The disk space of flash drives is thousands of times greater than that of floppy disk and CD ROM. Flash drives with disk space of about 256 GB were developed in 2011 which is by far greater than what could be obtainable with the floppy disk or CD ROM. Yet computer producers promise that flash drives with disk space greater than one thousand gigabyte would soon be in vogue.

Flash Memory

USB Flash Drives are built with flash memory. This means that its memory can be electronically erased. The process of erasing flash memory is called formatting. Some other devices that have this kind of memory include hard drives, digital cameras, mobile phones and so on. **USB Flash Drives** have electronic circuit boards encoded inside which are connected to a Universal Serial Bus (USB). The circuit board is often covered with metallic, plastic or rubber material in order to protect it from damage and make the flash drives user-friendly.