



PlayStation 3 Hard Drive Replacement

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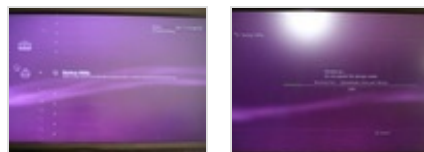
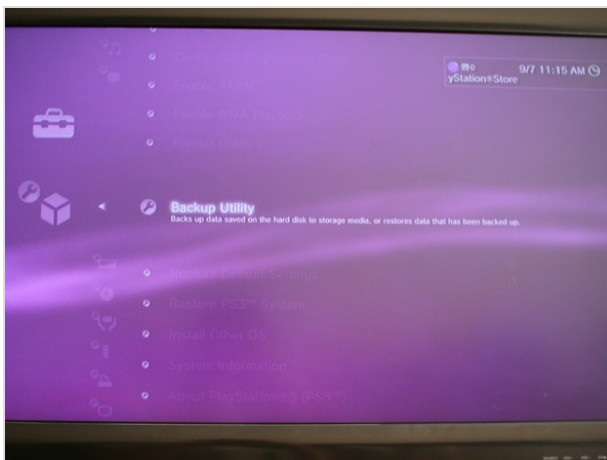
Tools used in this guide

- [Phillips #1 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)



Parts relevant to this guide

- [500 GB 5400 RPM Western Digital SATA Hard Drive \(New\)](#) (1)
- [500 GB 7200 RPM Seagate SATA Hard Drive \(New\)](#) (1)
- [750 GB 7200 RPM Seagate SATA Hard Drive \(New\)](#) (1)
- [Sony PlayStation 3 Hard Drive Bracket](#) (1)

Use this guide to replace your PlayStation 3's hard drive.



Step 1 — Hard Drive Backup

- If you need to backup the data on your current hard drive, follow the instructions in this step. Otherwise, continue to the next step. 
- On a Windows/OS X/Linux machine, format an external USB hard drive (with enough space available to backup your current hard content) into the FAT32 file system.
- Make sure it's formatted FAT32. The Playstation 3 backup utility will not recognize any other file system. 
- Connect your formatted hard drive to the Playstation 3 through a USB port and power the console up.
- Navigate the XMB to the 'Settings' menu and select 'System Settings'
- Select the 'Backup Utility' function to create a backup of your data - this can take up to 2 hours if you have a lot of data on the PS3.



Step 2 — Hard Drive

- Use the flat end of a spudger to pry the hard drive door away from the lower case.
- Remove the hard drive door from the PS3.



Step 3

- Remove the blue 8 mm Phillips screw securing the hard drive cage to the chassis.



Step 4

- Grab the hard drive pull tab and pull the hard drive toward the front face of the PS3.
- Pull the hard drive assembly out of the PS3.



Step 5 — Hard Drive Replacement

- Remove the four 4.3 mm Phillips screws securing the hard drive cage to the hard drive.
- These 4 screws can sometimes be very difficult to remove. If you strip the heads our [Screw Extracting Pliers](#) remove the damaged screws nicely.



Step 6

- Remove the hard drive from its steel cage.
- If you're installing a new hard drive into your PS3, use [this](#) guide to restore the data you backed up.



To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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