

# FULL PATH NAME LIMITS IN WINDOWS, MAC OS X, AND GNU/LINUX

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# SUMMARY

In the Windows.. and Mac OS X operating systems, the full path name cannot exceed 260 characters.

In GNU/Linux operating systems, the full path name defaults to 4096 characters.

# TOPICS

- Basics of "Full Path Names"
- Demo of full path name in "Windows.."
- Full path name in Mac "OS X"
- Demo of full path name in GNU/Linux

# Basics of Full Path Names

- In Windows, the full path name consists of  
<drive letter>:\<directory name>\<directory name>\<directory name>\<file name>.<file extension><unseen null character>

# Basics of Full Path Names (continued)

- In Mac OS X, the full path name consists of  
<directory name>/<directory name>/<directory name>/<file name>.<file extension><unseen null character>

# Basics of Full Path Names (continued)

- In GNU/Linux, the full path name consists of  
<directory name>/<directory name>/<directory name>/<file name>.<file extension><unseen null character>

A LIVE  
DEMONSTRATION  
OF A MAXED OUT  
FULL PATH NAME  
IN "WINDOWS"







THE MAXED OUT  
FULL PATH NAME  
IN "WINDOWS" HAS  
PLENTY OF "HEAD  
ROOM" IN "LINUX":





## Advantages in Mac "OS X"

- In "Windows", three characters are used up by the <drive letter>:\
- Since drive letters are not used in Mac "OS X", you have three additional characters for creating full path names

# Ramifications for Hard Drive Mirroring

- Drive Mirroring using Windows 8's "Storage Spaces" and "Dynamic Disks" in Windows XP/Vista/7/8 does NOT result in longer full path names in the mirrored hard drives.

# Ramifications for Hard Drive Mirroring (continued)

- Drive Mirroring using StableBit's "DrivePool" program or Division M's "Drive Bender" program result in longer full path names in the mirrored hard drives.