IBM 38L7315

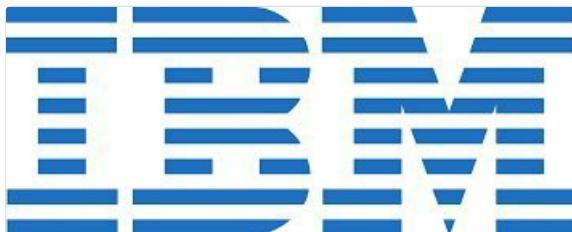# IBM Ultrium LTO 7 Tape Cartridge User Manual

Model: 38L7315

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the proper use and maintenance of your IBM Ultrium LTO 7 Tape Cartridges (Model 38L7315). These cartridges are designed for high-capacity, reliable data storage and retrieval in compatible LTO 7 tape drives. Each cartridge offers a native storage capacity of 2.5 TB, expandable up to 6 TB with 2.5:1 data compression.

Please read this manual thoroughly before using the product to ensure optimal performance and data integrity.

2. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

An image showing the packaging for the IBM Ultrium LTO 7 Tape Cartridge library pack, containing 20 cartridges.

2.1 Unpacking

- Carefully remove the tape cartridges from their packaging.
- Inspect each cartridge for any visible signs of damage. Do not use damaged cartridges.

2.2 Environmental Considerations

- Store cartridges in a clean, dry, and temperature-controlled environment, away from direct sunlight and strong magnetic fields.
- Recommended operating temperature: 10°C to 45°C (50°F to 113°F).
- Recommended humidity: 20% to 80% non-condensing.

2.3 Loading into Drive

- Ensure your tape drive is an LTO Ultrium 7 compatible model.
- Follow the specific loading instructions provided with your LTO 7 tape drive.

- Insert the cartridge firmly and gently into the drive slot until it clicks into place. Do not force the cartridge.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Data Recording

- Ensure the tape drive is properly connected to your host system and recognized by the operating system.
- Use compatible backup or archival software to initiate data recording.
- Verify that the software settings are configured for LTO 7 cartridges and desired compression levels.
- Monitor the recording process through your software interface.

3.2 Data Retrieval

- Load the desired cartridge into the LTO 7 tape drive.
- Use your backup or archival software to browse and select the data you wish to retrieve.
- Follow the software prompts to restore the data to your desired location.

3.3 Ejecting Cartridges

- Always ensure that all read/write operations are complete before attempting to eject a cartridge.
- Use the software or the drive's physical eject button to safely unload the cartridge.
- Never remove a cartridge while the drive is active or the cartridge is being accessed.

4. MAINTENANCE AND HANDLING

4.1 General Handling

- Handle cartridges by their shell. Avoid touching the tape surface or the leader pin.
- Do not drop or subject cartridges to impact, as this can damage the tape or internal mechanisms.

4.2 Cleaning

- Keep cartridges free from dust, dirt, and fingerprints.
- If necessary, gently wipe the cartridge shell with a clean, lint-free cloth. Do not use harsh chemicals or abrasive materials.
- Regularly clean your LTO tape drive using a compatible LTO cleaning cartridge as recommended by the drive manufacturer.

4.3 Storage

- Store cartridges vertically in their original protective cases or in a dedicated tape storage rack.
- Ensure storage conditions adhere to the recommended environmental specifications (temperature and humidity).
- Avoid storing cartridges near strong magnetic fields, such as speakers or motors, which can lead to data corruption.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter. For more complex problems, refer to your LTO tape drive manual or contact IBM support.

5.1 Cartridge Not Recognized

- **Check Drive Compatibility:** Ensure your tape drive is an LTO Ultrium 7 compatible model.
- **Reinsert Cartridge:** Eject and reinsert the cartridge, ensuring it is seated correctly.
- **Clean Drive:** Perform a drive cleaning cycle using an LTO cleaning cartridge.
- **Try Another Cartridge:** Test with a known good cartridge to determine if the issue is with the cartridge or the drive.

5.2 Read/Write Errors

- **Verify Software Settings:** Ensure your backup software is correctly configured for LTO 7 and the specific operation.
- **Drive Cleaning:** A dirty drive head can cause errors. Run a cleaning cycle.
- **Cartridge Condition:** Inspect the cartridge for any physical damage. Do not use damaged cartridges.
- **Environmental Factors:** Ensure the operating environment meets the recommended temperature and humidity specifications.

5.3 Physical Damage to Cartridge

- If a cartridge shows signs of physical damage (cracks, dents, exposed tape),**do not use it**. Using a damaged cartridge can harm your tape drive and lead to data loss.
- Properly dispose of damaged cartridges according to local regulations.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Number	38L7315
Technology	LTO Ultrium 7
Native Capacity	2.5 TB
Compressed Capacity	Up to 6 TB (2.5:1 compression ratio)
Write Speed (Compressed)	300 MB/s
Recording Capacity (Estimated Life)	Approximately 20,000 hours
Unit Count (per pack)	20 Cartridges
UPC	883436686822
Manufacturer	IBM MEDIA
Item Weight (per unit/pack)	Approximately 10.6 ounces (refer to packaging for specifics)
Product Dimensions (Pack)	16 x 12 x 5.9 inches

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Warranty information for IBM Ultrium LTO 7 Tape Cartridges is typically provided at the point of purchase or can be found on the official IBM website. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

For technical support, product inquiries, or to report issues, please refer to the contact information provided with your product or visit the official IBM support portal. Ensure you have your product model number (38L7315) and any relevant purchase details available when contacting support.