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Synology DX517

Synology DX517 5-Bay Expansion Unit User Manual

Model: DX517

1. Introduction

The Synology DX517 is a 5-bay expansion unit designed to provide additional storage capacity for compatible Synology DiskStation Network Attached Storage (NAS) devices. It allows for seamless storage expansion, enabling users to add up to five extra hard drives to their existing DiskStation. This unit supports both 2.5-inch and 3.5-inch SATA drives and features a hot-swappable drive tray design for convenient installation and replacement. The DX517 can be used to expand existing RAID volumes online or to create a dedicated local backup destination for your DiskStation.

2. Package Contents

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- Synology DX517 Main Unit
- User Guide (this document)
- Accessory Pack (screws for drive installation)
- Expansion Cable (eSATA cable for connecting to DiskStation)
- AC Power Cord

3. Product Overview

The Synology DX517 provides five additional drive bays to expand the storage capacity of your compatible Synology DiskStation. Its compact design integrates smoothly with your existing setup.



Figure 1: Front view of the Synology DX517 5-Bay Expansion Unit, showing the five drive bays and status indicators.



Figure 2: Side view of the Synology DX517, illustrating its physical dimensions: 9.76 inches (width) x 9.17 inches (depth) x 6.18 inches (height).

Key Features:

- **5 Drive Bays:** Provides additional capacity for 2.5-inch or 3.5-inch SATA hard drives.
- **Hot-Swappable Design:** Allows for easy installation and replacement of drives without powering down the unit.

- **eSATA Connectivity:** Connects to a compatible Synology DiskStation via a dedicated eSATA expansion cable.
- **Flexible Storage Management:** Supports online RAID volume expansion or creation of a separate volume for local backups.

4. Setup Instructions

Follow these steps to set up your Synology DX517 expansion unit:

1. **Prepare Drives:** Install your 2.5-inch or 3.5-inch SATA hard drives into the provided drive trays. Secure them with the screws from the accessory pack.
2. **Power Off DiskStation:** Ensure your Synology DiskStation is completely powered off before connecting the DX517.
3. **Connect Expansion Cable:** Connect one end of the eSATA expansion cable to the eSATA port on the DX517 and the other end to the eSATA expansion port on your DiskStation.
4. **Connect Power:** Connect the AC power cord to the DX517 and then to a power outlet.
5. **Power On:** First, power on the DX517, then power on your Synology DiskStation.
6. **Configure in DSM:** Once both units are powered on and the DiskStation has booted, log in to Synology DiskStation Manager (DSM). Navigate to **Storage Manager** to detect and configure the new drives in the DX517. You can create new storage pools/volumes or expand existing ones. Refer to the DSM Help for detailed storage configuration instructions.

Important: Always ensure your DiskStation is powered off before connecting or disconnecting the eSATA expansion cable to prevent data corruption or hardware damage.

5. Operating Instructions

Once the DX517 is set up and configured with your DiskStation, its operation is managed through the DiskStation Manager (DSM) interface of your main NAS unit.

Storage Management:

- **Volume Expansion:** You can expand existing RAID volumes on your DiskStation by adding drives from the DX517. This process is typically performed online without service interruption.
- **New Volume Creation:** Alternatively, you can create new, separate storage volumes using the drives in the DX517. This is useful for dedicated backup storage.
- **Hot-Swapping Drives:** The DX517 supports hot-swapping. If a drive fails or needs replacement, you can remove and insert a new drive while the unit is operational. Ensure the DiskStation Manager indicates the drive is ready for removal before proceeding.

For detailed instructions on managing storage pools, volumes, and RAID configurations, refer to the official Synology DiskStation Manager (DSM) documentation available on the Synology website.

6. Maintenance

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and reliable operation of your DX517.

- **Dust Removal:** Periodically clean the exterior of the unit with a soft, dry cloth. Ensure ventilation openings are free from dust accumulation to maintain proper airflow.
- **Drive Health Monitoring:** Regularly check the health status of your hard drives through DiskStation Manager (DSM). Replace any drives showing signs of degradation promptly.

- **Firmware Updates:** Keep your DiskStation Manager (DSM) and any associated firmware for the DX517 updated to the latest versions. Updates often include performance improvements and security patches.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Operate the DX517 within recommended temperature and humidity ranges to prevent hardware issues.

7. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your Synology DX517, consider the following troubleshooting steps:

- **Unit Not Detected:**
  - Ensure the eSATA cable is securely connected to both the DX517 and the DiskStation.
  - Verify that the DX517 is powered on and its power indicator light is active.
  - Restart both the DX517 and the DiskStation.
  - Check if your DiskStation model is compatible with the DX517 on the Synology website.
- **Drive Not Recognized:**
  - Ensure the drive is properly seated in its tray and the tray is fully inserted into the DX517.
  - Check the drive's health status in DiskStation Manager (DSM).
  - Try inserting a different, known-good drive to rule out a faulty drive.
- **Performance Issues:**
  - Verify that the eSATA cable is not damaged.
  - Monitor CPU and disk utilization in DSM to identify bottlenecks.
  - Ensure your drives are healthy and not experiencing errors.

If these steps do not resolve the issue, please contact Synology Technical Support for further assistance.

8. Specifications

Model Name	DX517
Drive Bays	5
Compatible Drive Types	2.5" / 3.5" SATA HDD/SSD
Connectivity	eSATA
Product Dimensions (H x W x D)	6.18 x 9.76 x 9.17 inches (157 x 248 x 233 mm)
Item Weight	8.62 pounds (3.91 kg)
Maximum Digital Storage Capacity	10000 GB (per drive, actual capacity depends on drives used)
Installation Type	External Hard Drive Enclosure
Color	Black
Manufacturer	Synology America Corp

9. Warranty and Support

The Synology DX517 is backed by Synology's 3-year limited warranty. For detailed warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the official Synology website.
For technical support, product registration, and additional resources, please visit the official Synology Support Center: Synology Support Center

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