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ORICO ORICO-DS500U3-BK

ORICO 5 Bay 3.5-inch Hard Drive Enclosure User Manual

Model: DS500U3 | Brand: ORICO

1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The ORICO 5-Bay 3.5-inch Hard Drive Enclosure (Model: DS500U3) is designed for efficient and expansive data storage. This tool-free external HDD docking station offers a magnetic cover for easy installation and supports up to 90TB of storage capacity (5 x 18TB drives). With USB 3.0 connectivity, it provides high-speed data transfer rates of up to 5Gbps, allowing for quick transfer of large files.

Key features include a 60mm double-ball bearing fan and honeycomb ventilation for effective heat dissipation, ensuring stable operation. It also incorporates multiple protection designs against over-voltage, over-current, overheat, short-circuit, and leakage to safeguard your data. The enclosure is compatible with Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux systems, offering broad usability for various computing environments.



Figure 1.1: ORICO 5-Bay Hard Drive Enclosure (DS500U3)

2. WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Upon unpacking your ORICO DS500U3, please verify that all the following components are included:

- 1x 5 Bay 3.5inch hard drive enclosure
- 1x USB A to B data cable
- 1x 12V 6.5A Power Adapter

- 1x User manual



Figure 2.1: Package Contents

3. SETUP

3.1 Hard Drive Installation

The ORICO DS500U3 features a magnetic, tool-free design for easy hard drive installation. Simply lift the top cover, insert your 3.5-inch SATA HDDs into the bays, and replace the cover. The magnetic chips will secure the cover in place.

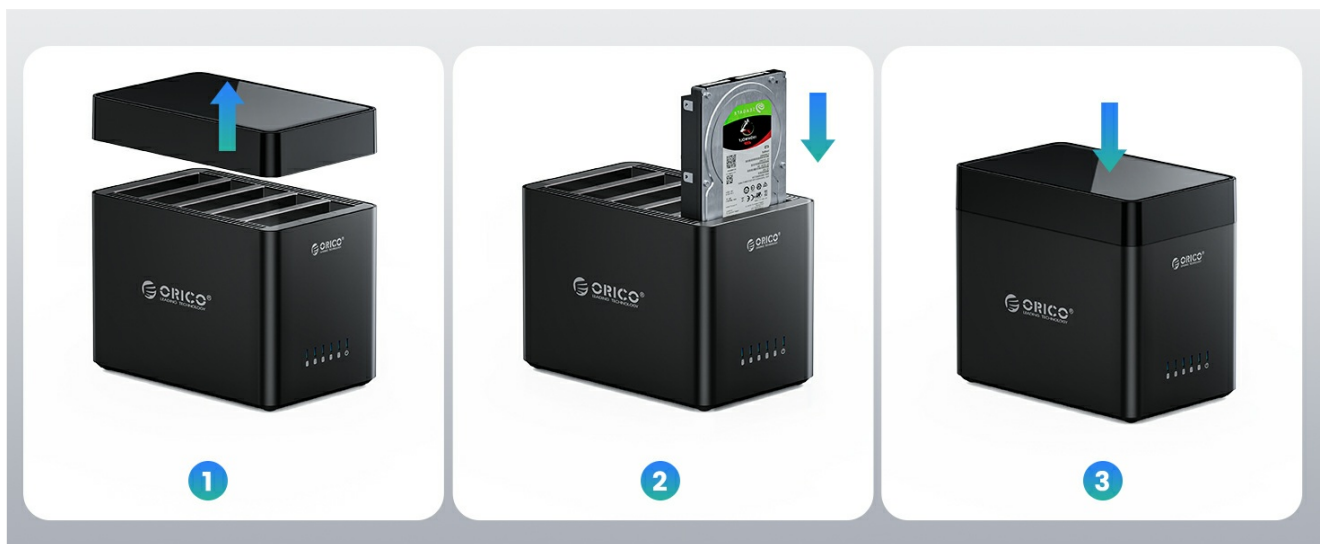


Figure 3.1: Tool-Free Hard Drive Installation

3.2 Connecting to Your Computer

Connect the 12V/6.5A power adapter to the enclosure's power input port and plug it into a power outlet. Then, connect the USB A to B data cable from the enclosure's USB 3.0 output port to an available USB port on your computer. The device is plug-and-play, requiring no additional drivers for most operating systems.

Maintain Stable Data Transfer

12V/6.5A independent power supply



Figure 3.2: Power and Data Connections

3.3 Initializing and Formatting Hard Drives

For new hard drives, or drives that are not recognized, you may need to initialize and format them through your operating system's disk management utility. This process is standard for all new storage devices.

Your browser does not support the video tag. Please refer to the text instructions for formatting.

Video 3.1: Operation Guide for Hard Disk Formatting and Partitioning (Windows/Mac OS)

For Windows Systems:

1. Right-click on 'This PC' (or 'My Computer') and select 'Manage'.

2. In the Computer Management window, navigate to 'Disk Management' under 'Storage'.
3. Locate the unallocated disk(s). Right-click on the disk and select 'Initialize Disk'. Choose GPT (GUID Partition Table) for modern systems and larger drives, then click 'OK'.
4. Right-click on the 'Unallocated' space of the initialized disk and select 'New Simple Volume'.
5. Follow the New Simple Volume Wizard, assigning a drive letter and choosing a file system (NTFS is recommended for Windows). Complete the wizard to format the drive.

For Mac OS Systems:

1. Open 'Finder', click 'Go' in the menu bar, then 'Utilities', and open 'Disk Utility'.
2. In Disk Utility, select the external ORICO drive from the sidebar.
3. Click the 'Erase' button in the toolbar.
4. In the pop-up window, provide a 'Name' for the drive. For 'Format', select 'ExFAT' if you intend to use the drive with both Mac OS and Windows systems. For Mac-only use, you can choose APFS or Mac OS Extended (Journaled). For 'Scheme', select 'GUID Partition Map'.
5. Click 'Erase' to begin the formatting process.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Data Transfer

The ORICO DS500U3 utilizes USB 3.0 technology, providing a maximum transfer rate of 5Gbps. This allows for rapid copying, moving, and backing up of large files and extensive data libraries.

Transfer 1G Files in Seconds



Figure 4.1: High-Speed Data Transfer

4.2 LED Indicators

The front panel features LED indicators to monitor the status of your hard drives:

- **Blue light (solid):** Indicates standby or sleep mode.
- **Blue light (flashing):** Indicates data reading or writing activity.
- **Red light (flashing):** Indicates hard drive abnormalities or failures.



Figure 4.2: LED Indicator Meanings

4.3 Auto-Sleep Mode

The enclosure supports an auto-sleep mode, which activates after 10 minutes of inactivity. This feature helps conserve power and extend the lifespan of your hard drives. Drives will wake up automatically upon access.



Figure 4.3: Auto-Sleep Mode

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cooling and Heat Dissipation

The DS500U3 is equipped with a 60mm double-ball bearing fan and features honeycomb holes on the rear panel to facilitate air circulation and heat dissipation. This design helps maintain optimal operating temperatures for your hard drives, especially during high-speed operations.

Keep HDD Cool and Stable

Built-in 120mm fans and convectional ventilated holes



Figure 5.1: Cooling System

5.2 Multi-Protection Features

The enclosure incorporates several protection mechanisms to ensure data integrity and device longevity, including safeguards against over-voltage, over-current, overheating, short-circuiting, and leakage.



Figure 5.2: Safety and Stability Features

5.3 Stability

The unit is equipped with soft rubber feet on its base to prevent slipping and absorb vibrations, contributing to stable operation and reduced noise.



Figure 5.3: Rubber Pads for Stability

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your ORICO DS500U3, please refer to the following common problems and solutions:

- **Drives Not Recognized:** Ensure all cables (power and USB) are securely connected. For new drives, or if drives were previously used in a different system, they may need to be initialized and formatted via your operating system's Disk Management (Windows) or Disk Utility (Mac OS). Refer to Section 3.3 for detailed instructions.
- **Only One Drive Recognized in Linux:** In some Linux systems, multi-HDD enclosures may initially only read one hard drive at a time. This is a known behavior for certain Linux configurations and not a defect of the enclosure. Manual mounting or specific Linux configurations may be required to access all drives simultaneously.
- **Overheating Issues:** While the enclosure has a built-in fan and ventilation, prolonged high-load operations with multiple drives can generate significant heat. Ensure the enclosure is placed in a well-ventilated area. If temperatures remain high, consider placing the unit where airflow is optimized, or ensure the top cover is not

obstructing airflow if the environment is particularly warm.

- **Slow Wake-Up from Sleep Mode:** The auto-sleep mode is designed to conserve power. If drives take an extended time to become accessible after inactivity, this is typically normal behavior as the drives spin up. If this is disruptive, some users have reported that disabling disk sleep functions in their operating system's power settings can affect this behavior, though this is not officially recommended by ORICO.
- **Fan Noise:** The 60mm cooling fan operates to dissipate heat. Some users may find the fan noise noticeable, especially if the unit is placed directly on a desktop. For a quieter environment, consider placing the enclosure on the floor or in a less audible location.
- **Intermittent Drive Recognition:** If drives are intermittently recognized or disconnect, check the USB cable for damage and ensure it is firmly seated. Also, verify that your computer's USB port is functioning correctly. Ensure the power adapter is providing stable power.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Brand	ORICO
Model Number	ORICO-DS500U3-BK
Material	Plastic
Compatible Devices	Laptop, TV, PC, Game consoles, Router
Hard Disk Form Factor	3.5 Inches
Max Capacity Supported	90TB (5 x 18TB)
Data Transfer Rate	5 Gigabits Per Second (USB 3.0)
Hardware Interface	USB 3.0 Type B
Product Dimensions	7.48 x 5.51 x 8.66 inches (8.6"L x 5.5"W x 7.7"H)
Item Weight	4.84 pounds (2.2 Kilograms)
Cooling	60mm double-ball bearing fan, honeycomb ventilation
Protection Features	Anti-over voltage, over-current, overheat, short-circuit, leakage
Operating System Compatibility	Windows XP / Vista / 7/8, Mac OS X 10.2 and higher, Linux

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

ORICO products typically come with a manufacturer's warranty. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official ORICO website. If you encounter any issues or require technical assistance, please contact ORICO customer support.

Additional support resources may include:

- **Official User Guide (PDF):** [Download PDF User Guide](#)
- **Data Recovery Plans:** Optional data recovery plans may be available for purchase to protect your valuable data.

