

**SSK DK103 Black**

# SSK Aluminum Hard Drive Docking Station User Manual

Model: DK103 Black

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the setup, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your SSK Aluminum Hard Drive Docking Station (Model DK103 Black). This device is designed to provide convenient access to 2.5-inch and 3.5-inch SATA HDDs and SSDs, featuring both PC data transfer and offline cloning capabilities.



Figure 1: SSK Aluminum Hard Drive Docking Station (Model DK103 Black)

The SSK DK103 Black is a dual-bay docking station for SATA hard drives and solid-state drives, featuring a sleek black aluminum casing and LED indicators.

## 2. PRODUCT FEATURES

- **Dual Mode Operation:** Features a manual switch to select between offline cloning/duplication and PC data transfer modes, preventing accidental data loss.
- **Offline Cloning/Duplication:** Supports direct drive-to-drive cloning without a computer for 2.5-inch and 3.5-inch SATA I/II/III HDDs/SSDs up to 2x20TB.
- **All-Round LED Indicator:** Equipped with LED lights for power, disk position, and cloning progress (25%, 50%, 75%, 100%) to monitor operational status.
- **Fast Data Transfer:** Utilizes USB-B 3.0 with UASP transmission protocol, offering speeds up to 6Gbps, which is approximately 20% faster than standard SATA speeds (5Gbps). Dual drives can transfer data independently.
- **Plug-and-Play:** No driver installation required for PC mode.
- **Aluminum Heat Sink Design:** The aluminum enclosure effectively dissipates heat, enhancing hard drive longevity and data stability.
- **Stable and Secure:** Features a stable base and high-precision molded drive bays to ensure minimal

clearance and secure drive placement.

- **Wide Compatibility:** Compatible with Windows XP/Vista/7/8/8.1/10, Mac OS 10.4 to 10.11, and Linux Kernel 2.4.2 or greater.

## USB 3.0 SATA 2.5"/3.5" Dual Bay Hard Drive Docking Station

Tool-Free installation for all 2.5"/3.5" SATA I/II/III HDD SSD



3.5" SATA HDD



2.5" SATA HDD



2.5" SATA SSD



Windows



Mac OS



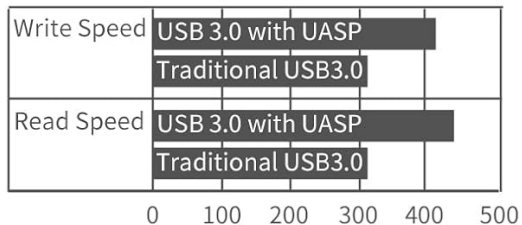
Linux

Figure 2: Compatibility with 2.5-inch and 3.5-inch SATA HDDs/SSDs across Windows, Mac, and Linux operating systems.

The docking station supports both standard 3.5-inch desktop hard drives and smaller 2.5-inch laptop hard drives or solid-state drives, making it versatile for various storage needs.

# UASP Protocol Supported, Incredibly Fast Transfers 20% Faster Speed than Traditional USB3.0

USB 3.0 Speed Comparison



USB3.0 CPU Usage Comparison



Figure 3: Performance comparison illustrating the speed advantage of UASP protocol over traditional USB 3.0.

The UASP (USB Attached SCSI Protocol) significantly boosts data transfer rates, especially for large files, by optimizing command queuing and data processing.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Please verify that all items are present in the package:

- 1x SSK DK103 Docking Station
- 1x USB 3.0 Cable
- 1x 12V/3A Power Adapter
- 1x User Manual

# USB 3.0 Dual Bay Docking Station with Sufficient Power Supply, Convent to Use

12V/3A power adapter,  
easily drive hard drives up to 20TB



Figure 4: The docking station includes a robust 12V/3A power adapter to ensure stable power delivery for up to two 20TB hard drives.

The included power adapter is crucial for supporting high-capacity drives and maintaining stable operation during data transfer and cloning processes.

## 4. SETUP GUIDE

### 4.1 Physical Setup

1. **Insert SATA HDD/SSD:** Gently slide your 2.5-inch or 3.5-inch SATA hard drive or solid-state drive into the appropriate bay (Bay A or Bay B) until it is securely seated. Ensure the SATA connector aligns correctly.
2. **Connect USB Cable:** Connect one end of the provided USB 3.0 cable to the USB-B port on the docking station and the other end to an available USB 3.0 port on your computer (for PC mode).
3. **Connect Power Adapter:** Plug the 12V/3A power adapter into the DC 12V input port on the docking station, then plug the adapter into a power outlet.
4. **Turn On Power:** Press the Power switch on the back of the docking station to turn it on. The power LED indicator will illuminate.





Figure 5: Visual guide for connecting hard drives, USB cable, power adapter, and turning on the device.

Proper connection of all cables and secure insertion of drives are essential for the docking station's functionality and data integrity.

## 5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 5.1 PC Mode Operation

In PC mode, the docking station functions as an external drive enclosure, allowing your computer to access the inserted drives. This mode is suitable for data transfer, backup, and general drive management.

1. Ensure the mode switch on the back of the docking station is set to **"PC"**.
2. Connect the USB 3.0 cable from the docking station to your computer.
3. Insert your SATA HDD(s) or SSD(s) into the bays.
4. Turn on the docking station using the Power switch.
5. Your computer should automatically detect the drives. You may need to initialize and format new drives via Disk Management (Windows) or Disk Utility (Mac) before use.
6. To safely remove drives, always "Eject" or "Safely Remove Hardware" from your operating system before

powering off the docking station or physically removing the drives.

## 5.2 Offline Cloning/Duplication

The offline cloning function allows you to duplicate a source drive to a target drive without connecting to a computer. The target drive must be equal to or larger in capacity than the source drive.

1. **Disconnect from Computer:** Ensure the docking station is NOT connected to any computer via USB.
2. **Insert Drives:** Insert the **Source Disk** into Bay A and the **Target Disk** into Bay B.
3. **Set Mode Switch:** Toggle the mode switch on the back of the docking station to "**Clone**".
4. **Power On:** Turn on the docking station using the Power switch.
5. **Initiate Clone:** Press and **hold the CLONE button** (the button with the two overlapping squares icon) for approximately 5 seconds until all percentage LEDs (25%, 50%, 75%, 100%) begin to flash.
6. **Confirm Clone:** Quickly release the CLONE button, then press it again immediately to confirm the cloning process. The 25% LED will start flashing, indicating the cloning has begun.
7. **Monitor Progress:** The percentage LEDs will illuminate sequentially (25%, 50%, 75%, 100%) as the cloning progresses. When all LEDs are solid, the cloning is complete.
8. **Completion:** The cloning process is complete when you hear a "Bang noise" three times (indicating 25%-100% completion).
9. **Power Off and Eject:** Once cloning is complete, press the Power switch to the OFF position and then safely eject your drives.

### Important Notes for Cloning:

- The target drive must be at least equal to or larger than the source drive in capacity.
- The cloning process will erase all existing data on the target drive. Ensure the target drive contains no important data or back it up beforehand.
- Do not unplug drives directly during cloning. Only remove drives after the process is complete and the device is powered off.

# Offline Cloning, No Computer Needed

LED lights flash in several colors indicates cloning  
All LED light up indicates cloning is completed



Figure 6: Diagram illustrating the offline cloning process from a source disk (A) to a target disk (B) with LED progress indicators.

The visual cues of the LED lights provide clear feedback on the cloning progress, from 25% to 100% completion.



# With Clone/PC Two Working Modes Button

The two modes do not interfere with each other  
Better protect data



Figure 7: Rear view of the docking station showing the DC 12V input, USB-B 3.0 port, Clone/PC mode switch, and Power switch.  
The dedicated Clone/PC switch ensures that the desired operation mode is selected, preventing unintended actions.

## Official Product Video: Offline Cloner Demonstration



Video 1: A demonstration of the SSK Dual Bay Hard Drive Docking Station's offline cloning feature. This video shows the steps to set up and initiate an offline clone, including setting the mode switch and pressing the clone button.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the docking station. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosols.
- **Storage:** When not in use, store the docking station in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- **Drive Handling:** Always handle hard drives with care. Avoid dropping or subjecting them to physical shocks.
- **Power Management:** To prolong the life of your hard drives and the docking station, always power off the device before inserting or removing drives, especially when not in PC mode.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Device not recognized by computer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ USB cable not properly connected.</li><li>◦ Mode switch set to "Clone".</li><li>◦ Power not on.</li><li>◦ Drive not initialized/formatted.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Ensure USB cable is securely connected to both the docking station and the computer.</li><li>◦ Set the mode switch to "PC".</li><li>◦ Press the Power switch to turn on the device.</li><li>◦ For new drives, initialize and format them via Disk Management (Windows) or Disk Utility (Mac).</li></ul>
Offline cloning fails or does not start.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ USB cable connected to computer.</li><li>◦ Target drive smaller than source drive.</li><li>◦ Incorrect cloning procedure.</li><li>◦ Drives not properly seated.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Disconnect the USB cable from the computer.</li><li>◦ Ensure the target drive's capacity is equal to or larger than the source drive.</li><li>◦ Review "5.2 Offline Cloning/Duplication" section for correct steps.</li><li>◦ Re-insert drives firmly into their bays.</li></ul>
Slow data transfer speeds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Connected to a USB 2.0 port.</li><li>◦ UASP not enabled (if applicable).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Connect the docking station to a USB 3.0 port on your computer.</li><li>◦ Ensure your operating system and motherboard support UASP.</li></ul>

## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** DK103 Black
- **Material:** Aluminum
- **Compatible Drive Types:** 2.5-inch & 3.5-inch SATA I/II/III HDD/SSD
- **Max Capacity:** Up to 2x20TB (40TB total)
- **Interface:** USB 3.0 (USB-B)
- **Data Transfer Rate:** Up to 6Gbps (with UASP)
- **Power Supply:** 12V/3A Power Adapter
- **Dimensions:** 5 x 3.8 x 2.8 inches (12.7 x 9.65 x 7.11 cm)
- **Weight:** 1.57 pounds (0.71 kg)
- **Operating System Compatibility:** Windows XP/Vista/7/8/8.1/10, Mac OS 10.4-10.11, Linux Kernel 2.4.2+

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

SSK products are designed and manufactured to the highest quality standards. For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the official SSK website or contact their customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt for warranty claims.

For further assistance, visit the [SSK Store on Amazon](#).

