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REDKEY USB DATA GONE FOREVER Ultimate Edition

Redkey USB Ultimate: Certified Data Wipe Tool User Manual

Comprehensive guide for secure data erasure on PCs, Macs, and mobile devices.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Redkey USB Ultimate is a dedicated hardware solution designed for the complete and secure erasure of data from various storage devices, including hard disk drives (HDDs), solid-state drives (SSDs), USB drives, and even mobile phones. This manual provides detailed instructions to ensure your data is permanently removed, protecting your privacy when disposing of or repurposing devices.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Redkey USB Ultimate is a compact, red-colored USB device that functions as a bootable data wiping tool. It is designed for ease of use, offering a plug-and-play experience for secure data erasure.



Figure 2.1: The Redkey USB Ultimate connected to a laptop. This image shows the compact size and simple integration of the device into a computer's USB port, ready for operation.

Key Features:

- **Ultimate Edition Capabilities:** Securely wipes iOS and Android mobile devices, as well as PCs and Intel-Based Macintosh computers. Includes advanced scripting automation for batch processing.
- **Fast Erasure with Plug & Play:** User-friendly software and portable USB for effortless data erasure.
- **Superior Data Security:** Utilizes the latest wipe technology for complete erasure on HDDs, SSDs, and USB drives, including hidden areas and multi-drive erasure.
- **Easy Activation & Continuous Updates:** Activates on any Windows 7+ PC and receives lifetime updates via a desktop app.
- **Certified Secure Data Erasure:** Compliant with GDPR, NIST, and HIPAA standards, ensuring effective and reliable data security.



Figure 2.2: A hand holding the Redkey USB Ultimate, demonstrating its small and portable design. The device is red with clear plastic caps on both ends, revealing a standard USB-A connector and a USB-C connector.

3. SETUP

3.1. System Requirements

- **Operating System (for activation/updates):** Windows 7 or newer.
- **Target Device Compatibility:** PCs (desktops/laptops), Intel-Based Macintosh computers, iOS mobile devices, Android mobile devices.
- **Hardware:** Available USB port (USB-A or USB-C).

3.2. Activation and Software Updates

Before first use, the Redkey USB needs to be activated and its software updated to ensure optimal performance and

access to the latest features.

1. Connect the Redkey USB to a working Windows 7+ PC.
2. Visit the official Redkey USB website to download the Redkey USB Updater application.
3. Launch the Updater application. It will detect your Redkey USB.
4. Locate the activation code on the product packaging (often a scratch-off area).
5. Enter the activation code into the Updater application to activate your Redkey.
6. Proceed with the software update within the application. This process may take several minutes.



Figure 3.1: The Redkey USB Ultimate shown in its retail packaging. The packaging highlights key features such as "Easy to Use," "Unlimited Use," and "Includes Updates," along with a warning about permanent data destruction. The activation code is typically found on the inside of this packaging.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 3.1: Redkey USB Product Review. This video demonstrates the unboxing, activation, and basic usage of the Redkey USB, including the software update process. It provides a visual guide to setting up the device for the first time.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS: DATA WIPING PROCESS

The core function of the Redkey USB Ultimate is to securely wipe data. Follow these steps carefully to ensure complete data destruction.

4.1. Important Pre-Wipe Preparations

- **Backup All Necessary Data:** Data wiped by Redkey USB is permanently destroyed and cannot be recovered. Ensure all important files, documents, photos, and other personal data are backed up to an external drive or cloud storage BEFORE proceeding.
- **Power Off Target Device:** Completely shut down the computer or mobile device you intend to wipe.
- **Disconnect Peripherals:** Disconnect all unnecessary peripherals (printers, external drives, etc.) from the target device.

4.2. Booting from Redkey USB

1. Insert the Redkey USB into an available USB port on the target computer or mobile device.
2. Power on the device. Immediately and repeatedly press the designated BIOS/Boot Menu key. Common keys include **F2**, **F12**, **Delete**, **Esc**, **F10**. Consult your device's manual if unsure.
3. In the BIOS/Boot Menu, navigate to the "Boot Order" or "Boot Sequence" options.
4. Select the Redkey USB (often listed as "USB Storage Device" or similar) as the primary boot device. Save changes and exit the BIOS/Boot Menu.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 4.1: How to COMPLETELY Wipe Your Computer's Hard Drive. This video provides a step-by-step demonstration of booting a computer from the Redkey USB and initiating the data wiping process, including navigating the BIOS/Boot Menu.

4.3. Initiating the Wipe

1. Once the Redkey USB boots successfully, its graphical interface will load.
2. The software will detect all connected storage devices. Carefully select the drive(s) you wish to wipe.
3. Choose a wiping algorithm from the available options. Redkey supports various industry-standard algorithms, including:
 - **Zero Fill:** Overwrites data with zeros.
 - **DoD 5220.22-M:** Department of Defense standard, multiple passes.
 - **NIST 800-88 Clear/Purge:** National Institute of Standards and Technology guidelines.
 - Other advanced algorithms for specific compliance needs.
4. Confirm your selection and initiate the wiping process. A progress indicator will show the status of the erasure.
5. Upon completion, the screen will display a "DATA WIPED" confirmation.



Figure 4.1: The Redkey USB software interface displayed on a monitor, showing options for selecting drives and initiating the wiping process. This interface is designed to be intuitive for users to manage data erasure tasks.

After the wipe is complete, you can safely remove the Redkey USB. The device is now ready for repurposing, resale, or recycling without risk of data recovery.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure your Redkey USB Ultimate remains effective and up-to-date, regular maintenance is recommended.

- **Software Updates:** Periodically connect your Redkey USB to a Windows 7+ PC and use the Redkey USB Updater application to check for and install the latest software versions. This ensures compatibility with new hardware and includes the most current wiping algorithms.
- **Physical Care:** Store the Redkey USB in a safe, dry place away from extreme temperatures and direct sunlight. Keep the protective caps on the connectors when not in use to prevent dust and damage.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

6.1. Redkey USB Not Booting

- **Check BIOS/Boot Order:** Ensure the Redkey USB is correctly selected as the primary boot device in your device's BIOS/Boot Menu.
- **Try Different USB Port:** Some USB ports may have different boot priorities or power delivery. Try another port.
- **Disable Secure Boot/Fast Boot:** In some modern systems, these BIOS settings can prevent booting from external devices. Temporarily disable them.
- **Update Redkey Software:** Ensure your Redkey USB has the latest software version via the Updater application on a working PC.

6.2. Activation Issues

- **Verify Code Entry:** Double-check that the activation code is entered correctly, paying attention to any similar-looking characters.
- **Internet Connection:** Ensure the PC used for activation has a stable internet connection.
- **Firewall/Antivirus:** Temporarily disable firewall or antivirus software if it's blocking the Updater application's connection.

6.3. Drive Not Detected or Wiping Fails

- **Ensure Drive is Connected:** Verify the target drive is properly connected internally or externally.
- **Frozen Discs:** The Redkey software may prompt you to "unfreeze" a drive if it detects a security lock. Follow the on-screen instructions.
- **Try Different Algorithm:** If one algorithm fails, try another. Some drives may respond better to specific wiping methods.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model	Ultimate Edition
Storage Capacity (Redkey USB)	16 GB Solid State Drive
Interface	USB 3.0 (USB-A and USB-C connectors)
Color	Red
Compatibility	PCs (Windows 7+), Intel-Based Macintosh, iOS, Android
Wiping Standards	Supports various industry standards (e.g., Zero Fill, DoD, NIST)

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

8.1. Lifetime Updates

The Redkey USB Ultimate includes lifetime software updates, ensuring your device remains compatible with evolving hardware and incorporates the latest data erasure technologies and security standards.

8.2. Manufacturer Support

For further assistance, technical support, or inquiries, please refer to the official Redkey USB LTD website or contact their customer service. Detailed FAQs and troubleshooting guides are often available online.

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