

# Why can't I copy files larger than 4Gb onto my USB drive?



## Most USB drives are formatted to the FAT32 file system.

The FAT32 file system was introduced in 1996 as the successor to the FAT16 file system. The maximum file size allowed under FAT32 is **4Gb** (technically 4 GB minus 1 byte, or 4,294,967,295 bytes).

One advantage of using FAT32 is that it's widely compatible across PCs, Macs, TVs, and most other devices with a USB-A port.

For this reason we recommend splitting larger files into parts smaller than 4gb each, eg. a 6Gb movie file can be split into two 3Gb files.

## What If my files need to be larger than 4Gb?

For files larger than 4Gb the USB drive will need to be reformatted to a different file system that supports large file sizes, such as exFAT. This service is not available on our 48 hour range.