

Jaz disks on the SGI platform (running IRIX 6.2-6.4 OS)

About the disks:

2. Use Mac formatted disks, as the SGI Operating System does not recognize IBM format.
1. A Jaz disk fits 1 GB of data - it is recommended that you leave 4-5 MB of free space on each disk.

At the SGI computer:

1. Log into your account
2. Make sure green light is lit on Jaz drive
3. Insert Jaz disk into drive *slowly*
4. WAIT until orange light stops blinking
5. Jaz icon should show disk inserted and an apple over the icon
6. Double click Jaz disk icon - directory window for /jaz will appear
7. Open directory window where your files are (Desktop - HomeDirectory; fill in path)
8. Use drag & drop to copy files to Jaz drive - *window to window*.

To Eject disk (very important):

1. Close any open windows for /jaz path
2. Click jaz icon with left button - icon should turn yellow
3. With cursor on jaz icon, hold down right button - choose eject Jaz command (near bottom of list)
4. Wait until orange light stops blinking
5. Manually eject disk using black button on the face of the drive, if necessary `(IRIX 6.3 or 6.4 will automatically eject the disk, IRIX 6.2 will not)

Note: If you do not “software eject” (step 3) before “hardware eject” (step 5) you may lose all of the data on the disk!!

Common Errors/Problems:

Log into the account BEFORE inserting Jaz disk in drive.

Do not try to copy more than 4-5 items at a time. Yes, I know this is tedious, but losing your data and having to collect it again is even more so.

Drag and drop individual files into OPEN folders (i.e. Don't drag a number of files on top of a folder icon and expect them to be placed inside the folder - for some reason this often fails). I suspect that this may be superstitious, but I don't usually copy a folder full of data. I make a new directory on the Jaz (using the folder name), open it and then copy the contents of the folder on the SGI hard drive into it.

When changing Jaz disks, you will often see “ghost” icons of files that were on the first Jaz disk. This doesn't mean they are on the second disk - just that the cached memory has not been cleared. To prevent this, after ejecting disk 1, log out, log into your account again, insert disk 2.

If you get a “drive busy” error, quit all running programs on the SGI (for DeltaVision - use “Quit DeltaVision” command under DeltaVision in SGI Toolbox) and then eject the Jaz disk.

If the SGI computer crashes or loses the connection to the Jaz disk (suddenly the Jaz window is empty), eject the Jaz disk, bring it to a Mac and run Norton Utilities on the disk, then bring it back to the SGI and life should be fine. Note: if Norton finds bit map errors, have it fix them and when it's done, RE-RUN Norton to make sure that it fixed them. To speed this process up, skip the blocks test. If the same error remains after 2-3 passes of Norton Utilities, then eject the jaz disk, reboot the Mac using the Norton Utilities CD-ROM (hold down the “c” key as the computer boots up), load the Iomega driver (run Iomega guest in the Jaz tools folder), insert the Jaz disk and run Norton on the jaz. This has solved all lingering problems that I've encountered to date.

Note: If computer crashes and you can't eject Jaz, call the super user of the computer (someone who has root access). They should shut down the system, turn off the Jaz drive, turn on the Jaz drive, hardware eject the jaz disk and then restart the computer. Take the Jaz disk off to Norton Utilities as described above.

NOTE FOR DELTAVISION USERS: If you want to do any kind of manipulation to a file which is on your jaz disk (deconvolving, projecting, converting to TIFF), first copy the file back on to the internal hard drive and then perform the desired action. If you try to run the process with a file on the jaz disk, the computer will freeze and your new files will be unreadable. In addition, do not send the output of any of these processes directly to the jaz disk (for instance, do not . Instead, direct the output files to the data folder on the desktop and then copy them to the jaz.