

# **MICRODRIVE WITH TRANSPARENT COVER. USB MEMORY STICK.**

Dear Customer:

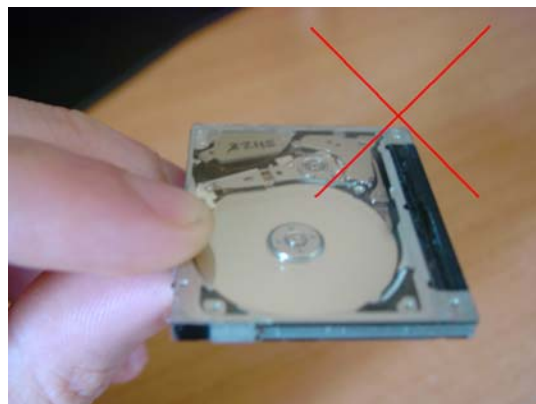
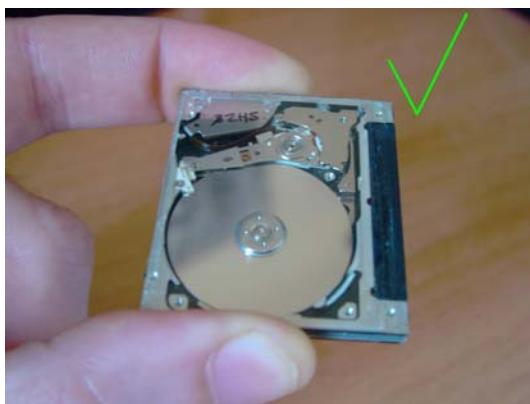
Thanks a lot for buying this product. Your Transparent Microdrive is the consequence of many months of research. The result is a fully working and functional Microdrive where it is possible to see how the very small hard disk works. You can use your own Microdrive as a flash USB disk with the supplied USB reader. In addition, your transparent Microdrive could work in a PDA, cameras, camcorders, ... as a normal Microdrive, but this is not guaranteed, due to the well know incompatibility problems.

If you are reading this document, and you have not bought a Microdrive with transparent cover in Ebay (my Ebay username is faparisi), you can visit the following Web page in order to see pictures and videos of how it works:

<http://personales.upv.es/~faparisi/microdrive.htm>

## **HANDLING THE MICRODRIVE.**

You have to treat your transparent Microdrive as a regular one. As a normal Microdrive, it is highly recommend handling the unit as the following pictures show:



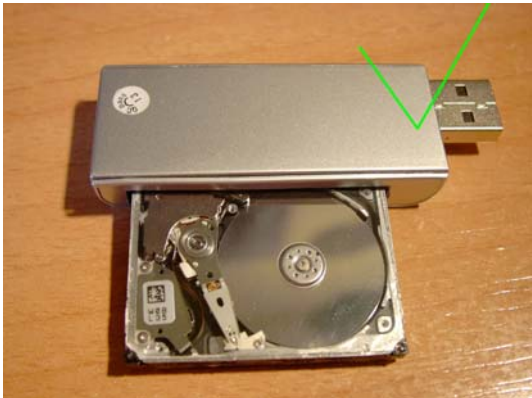
Please, follow the same recommendation about handling when the Microdrive is removed or inserted in a CF slot.



It is not recommend touching the plastic cover, especially in the place where the reading head is located. Never touch the cover when the Microdrive is running.

The following pictures show how to insert the Microdrive in the USB reader. Please, take into account that only the correct orientation shown in the pictures is possible.

### **340 MB and 1GB Models.**



### **2 GB and 4 GB Models.**



Always keep the Microdrive in the supplied plastic case when it is not used. If you use the Microdrive as an USB memory stick, please keep the Transparent Microdrive in the plastic case when you are not using it and to transport it. Do not leave it inserted in the USB reader. You can leave it inserted in the CF slot of a PDA, camera, camcorder or similar, because the Microdrive is then protected by the slot.

### **Using an extender USB cable.**

In some cases, when an extender USB cable is used, see next picture, the Microdrive does not work properly. This happens very infrequently and normally in some old computers or notebooks, where the USB connector has no enough power to feed the Microdrive or other external USB devices. Another possible reason is that the USB cable is of bad quality. If the USB reader with the Microdrive is connected directly to the USB connector of the computer the problem normally is fixed, and the Transparent Microdrive will work properly.



This very rare problem can be solved with a cable as the shown in the following picture, which takes the power from two USB connectors. Or you could buy a better quality extender USB cable.



**Always remove the USB reader from the computer after selecting in Windows the icon “safely remove”.**

**It is recommended to format the Microdrive periodically.** This is a good and general recommendation for all the hard disks and USB memory sticks. This simple task can avoid future problems and may extend the life of your unit. It works better when the Microdrive is quite full of data. To format, first copy all the data of your Microdrive to your computer. Then, click “My PC”, select the drive, right button, format. After the format is finished copy your data back to your formatted Microdrive.

## **FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)**

### **How do you manufacture these Microdrives?**

I cannot explain you with detail the whole procedure, but let me summarize it. First an IBM or Hitachi Microdrive is bought. It is not possible to produce Seagate Microdrives with transparent cover (there is a necessary magnet in the cover). Then the Microdrive is dismounted (this is rather complicated). This process is made in an atmosphere free of dust. One of the covers is removed and the new transparent cover is then glued and sealed. A special plastic has been selected, taking into account several factors (transparency, no future scratches, good protection of the Microdrive, etc.). The final step is to run a long and complete test to check that the Transparent Microdrive works without issues.

**Yes, it works, but what about the reliability? It will last?**

Before deciding selling these units the reliability of this product has been tested for a long period. These modified Microdrives have the same reliability of the originals. You can use them all the days.

**What about possible scratches on the plastic cover?**

The size of this Microdrive is the same as the original one. Therefore, you can insert this unit in whatever CompactFlash slot and no scratches will be produced. Secondly, the plastic cover is made of a material that it is quite resistant to scratches. Just treat this Microdrive with care and no scratches will be produced.

**Can I clean the plastic cover?**

Never use alcohol or similar products, the transparency of the cover will be reduced. Some home soft cleaning products work. However, my recommendation is to use distilled water. Always clean the cover with a cotton-stick, smoothly, to avoid scratches.

**Can I use it in Linux?**

Yes, the Transparent Microdrive is formatted to FAT32, just mount the unit.

**Any warranty?**

7 days money back warranty. Check the Microdrive when you received it for 7 days. If it does not work send it to me and I will change it for a new one or you money will be back. There are very well known incompatibilities problems among Microdrives and some PDAs, cameras and camcorders. Therefore, I can only guarantee that the Microdrive works with the USB reader that is sent with the Transparent Microdrive. The delivery is non-refundable and buyer will have to pay for your own mailing cost to return. Money back will through PayPal.

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This file can be downloaded at <http://personales.upv.es/~faparisi/Ebay/Instructions.pdf>