Cleaning Up your C: Drive with Windows 7 Disk Defragmenter

Fragmentation on your hard disk can slow down your computer. Windows Disk Defragmenter rearranges fragmented data so your disks and drives can work more efficiently. Running both Disk Cleanup and Disk Defragmenter on your computer will usually improve performance.

**Note:** Removable storage devices such as USB flash drives can become fragmented and you can use Disk Defragmenter to clean up the drive.

- Open **Disk Defragmenter** by clicking the **Start** button.
- In the search box, type **Disk Defragmenter**, and then, in the list of results, click **Disk Defragmenter**.
  * Alternatively you can click on **Start**, click **All Programs**, click **Accessories**, click **System Tools**, and then click **Disk Defragmenter**.
- Under **Current Status**, select the disk you want to defragment. (**See Figure 1**)
Windows 7 Disk Defragmenter

- To determine if the disk needs to be defragmented or not, click the Analyze disk button.
  * If you're prompted for an administrator password and/or confirmation, type the password and/or confirmation.
- Once Windows is finished analyzing the disk, you can check the percentage of fragmentation on the disk in the Last Run column. If the number is above 10%, you should defragment the disk.
- To defragment your drive, click the Defragment disk button.
  * If you're prompted for an administrator password and/or confirmation, type the password and/or confirmation.
- Disk Defragmenter might take from several minutes to a few hours to finish, depending on the size and degree of fragmentation of your hard disk.
  * You can still use your computer during the defragmentation process.
  * If you decide you want to stop the defragmenting process, you can click the Stop operation button.

**Note:** Do not allow your computer to go into sleep mode during defragmentation or the process might take longer. Disk Defragmenter will typically be suspended and will pick back up only when you take your computer out of sleep mode.