



Brunswick County Computer 4 Kids

BCC4K policy on private information on donated hard drives

All computers hard drives (desktops or laptops) donated to Brunswick County Computers 4 Kids are wiped/scrubbed of all data, both personal and installed software. We use specialized software to scrub all hard drives. The process can take anywhere from 1 to 4 hours depending on the size of the hard drive. Basically, the program writes a zero into each spot on the hard drive. The result is the same as installing a brand new hard drive.

There is a difference between wiping/scrubbing a hard drive and formatting a hard drive.

Formatting

The process of formatting a hard drive wipes its partition table clean and unlinks all the files in the files system, marking it entirely as writable space. It also sets up a new file tree to use with operating systems. However, data can still be forensically recovered from a formatted drive as it still exists on the drive.

Wiping/scrubbing

The process of removing all data from the drive and making it unable to be recovered. This process places the "00 Hex" on the drive which is a series of zeros.

Some people just delete their data files from the system they are donating. This action only makes that portion of the hard drive available for use. It does not delete the data from the hard drive.

BCC4K insures those who donate systems to our program that their personal information is totally wiped/scrubbed Donators to BCC4K do not need to hire an outside firm to perform this action as we will only repeat the same procedure.

Question may be addressed to

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Brunswick County Computers 4 Kids is a Federally Sanctioned 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization
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