# Disk Defrag 12

## USER MANUAL

auslogics

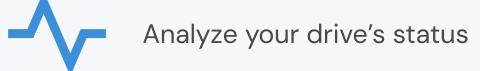


## **Welcome to Auslogics Disk Defrag**

This is your guide to one of the fastest and most effective defragmenters in the world that lets you:



Defragment HDDs with a super-quick engine









Optimize HDDs using a special algorithm

Schedule offline defragmentation to process locked system files and more

Here is a brief overview of the features that allow the program to optimize and improve your system performance:

### FEATURE

### DESCRIPTION

File defragmentation	Defragments files and folders by merging their pieces together
Free space consolidation	Merges scattered pieces of free space into a contiguous block, pre
Smart placement of system files	Moves system files to the faster part of the disk, minimizing the time
Clears the MFT reserved zone	Moves data files from the MFT reserved zone into the rest of the dis
Single file defragmentation	Can save you time by defragmenting only the files you need instead
Simultaneous defragmentation	Can defragment several drives at once, greatly reducing the time ne
VSS-optimized algorithm	Minimizes growth of the VSS storage area and reduces the chance
Auto defragmentation	Can defragment disks automatically in the background when your s
Scheduled defragmentation	Has a flexible scheduler that allows you to set the most suitable tim
Clears temporary files	Can clear current user and Windows temporary folders to reduce t

eventing fragmentation of newly created files

ne needed for the hard drive to access them

sk space, preventing MFT fragmentation

d of the entire hard drive

needed for defragmentation

of overwriting previous VSS snapshots

system goes idle

ne span for defragmenting disks

the time needed for defragmentation

File fragments viewer	Shows you the list of all fragmented files and their fragments locatio
File/folder exclusion	If there is encrypted data or other files that should not be moved, th
Flexible handling of large fragments	Can be configured to ignore large file fragments as their defragment
Supports multi-terabyte volumes	Has a powerful engine that allows the program to defragment large o
Command line support	Supplied with a command-line tool— <b>cdefrag.exe</b> —which can be fou

ion on the disk

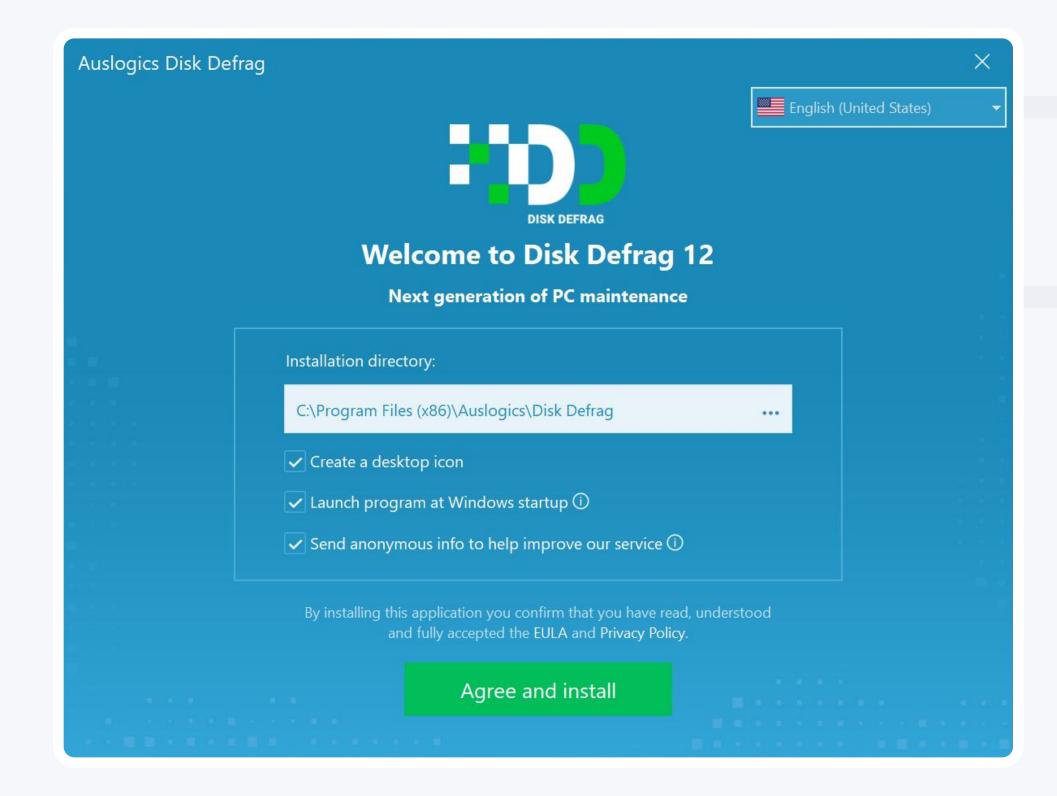
they can be excluded from defragmentation

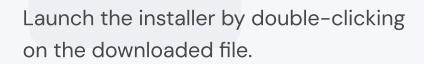
ntation doesn't increase file read speed much

e disks of several terabytes

ound in the program folder once it is installed

# **Installing Disk Defrag**





1

2

3

You can leave the installation options as they are or customize them on this page.

Click the links to review the End User License Agreement (EULA) and Privacy Policy, then click the "Agree and install" button to start installation.

### Auslogics Disk Defrag

## **Disk Defrag installation complete**



Thank you for installing Auslogics Disk Defrag, award-winning disk optimization tool

Launch Disk Defrag



Make sure the checkbox to launch Disk Defrag is checked and click the "**Finish**" button to complete installation.

## Free vs. Pro

Disk Defrag comes in two versions: Free and Pro. The Free version offers essential disk defragmentation and free space consolidation functionality. The Pro version provides advanced features that let you schedule automatic defragmentation, clean up drives before defrags, and more.

When using the Free version, you will see all Pro features marked with the yellow tag. This should give you a good idea of what you can get if you upgrade. The rest of this manual will talk about both Free and Pro version features in more detail.

	FREE	PRO	
Special HDD optimization algorithms	×	$\checkmark$	
Disk cleanup before defrag	×	$\checkmark$	
Wipe free space on drives	×	$\checkmark$	
Schedule automatic defrags	×	$\checkmark$	
Ask a Question option for live expert answers	1 question	3 questions	

### ТΕ

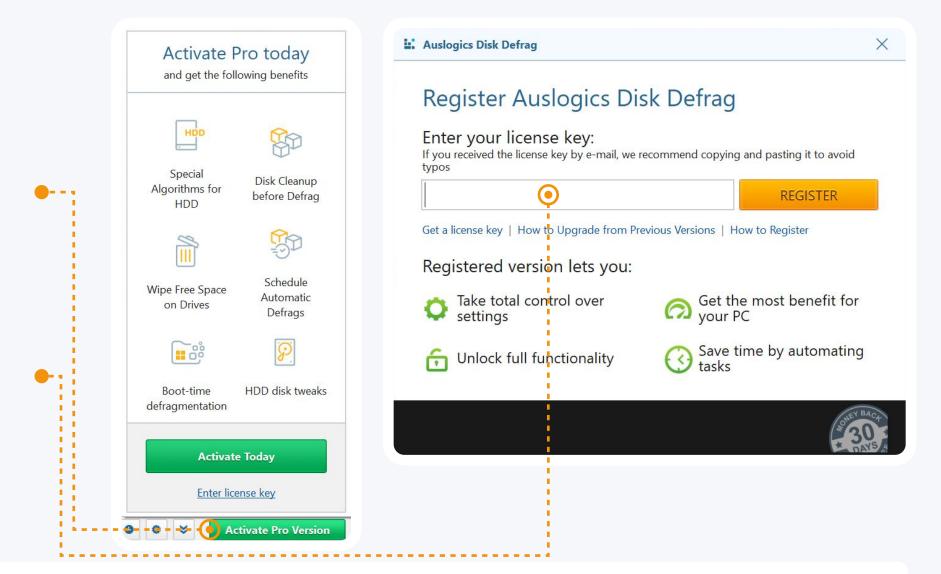
s has a specialized tool for optimizing SSDs—<u>SSD Optimizer</u> offers dedicated maintenance and support for your solidve. If you have both drive types, Auslogics offers <u>Disk Toolkit</u>, that features both tools at a special price.

# **Registering Disk Defrag Pro**

To unlock and use all of the Pro features, you need to upgrade your Disk Defrag Free to the Pro version. Here is how to do that:

Hover your mouse over the "Activate Pro Version" button at the bottomright of the program window (do not click). This will open a popup with two options for you to click. The "Activate Today" button takes you to a web page where you can purchase a license key (you can also reach this page by simply clicking the "Activate Pro Version" button without bringing up the popup).

Right below the "Activate Today" button in the popup, you see the "Enter license key" link—click it when you've already purchased a license and received a license key via email. This will bring up a small window with the field to enter your key in. Copy the license key from the confirmation email. Then, go back to Disk Defrag, paste the key into the registration field, and click "Register."

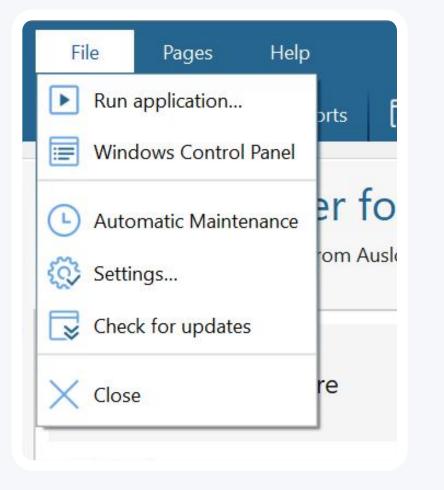


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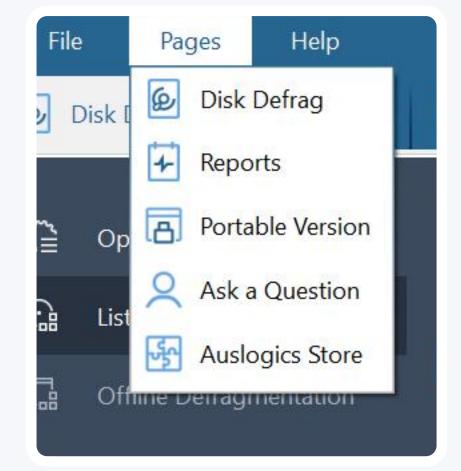
When you place your order online and complete the payment, a confirmation message is sent to you via email to the address you provide during checkout. You will be getting two messages: one containing your invoice and the other with your license information. If you don't see the message(s), please check your spam/ junk mail folder before contacting technical support. A common reason for not receiving an order confirmation is typos made in the email address, so be sure to double-check your contact info when placing an order.

# **Main Menu**

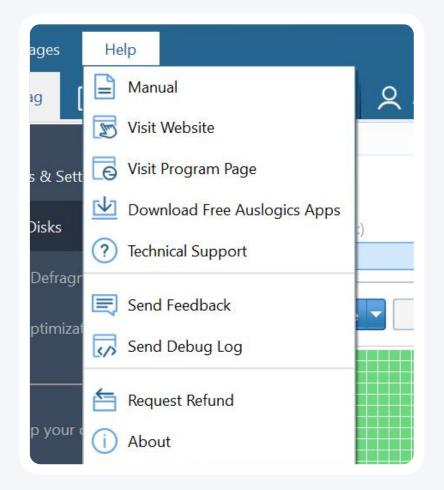
The main program menu is located at the very top of the program window and gives you three drop-down lists of shortcuts to almost every Disk Defrag feature.



The **File** menu contains the main options that let you quickly run any program or open a website by simply typing its name or address in a popup window, open Control Panel, schedule maintenance, access Rescue Center, open Settings, or check for updates.



The Pages menu lets you quickly switch between The **Help** menu lists the options you have for getting information about the program or tabs. assistance with it.

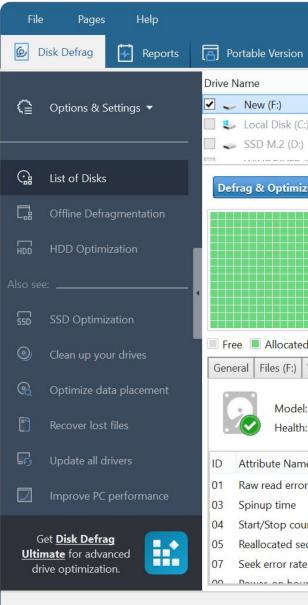


# **Main Window and Navigation**

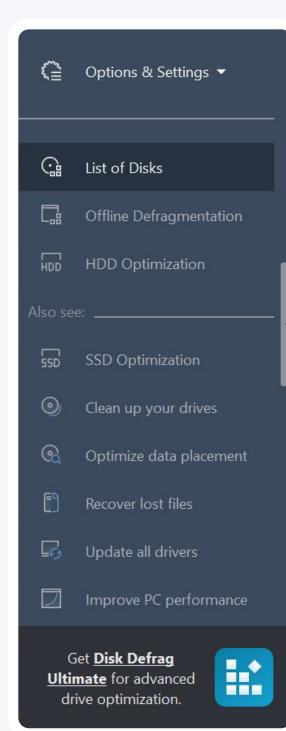
When you open Disk Defrag, the main program window opens on the **Disk Defrag** tab.

At the very top of the window, you see the main menu that lets you navigate through the program, easily access various features, or find help info (see the Main Menu section above for details).

Right below the main menu, you see the tabs that let you switch between the program's sections. We'll be looking at each tab in more detail further in this guide. On the left, you see the navigation panel that lets you go through the program's functionality and apply all of its features for maximum drive speedup.



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	369.70 GB	118.92	GB NTFS	SSD 🔳			Ready	
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## The items you see in the main section of the navigation panel are:

Options & Settings, which is the main control for your defrags and optimizations (see Using Disk Defrag for details). List of Disks, which lets you select disks to defragment or optimize, monitor defragmentation process, and review results. Offline Defragmentation, which lets you configure and schedule boot-time defrags to process locked system files before Windows starts up.

**HDD Optimization**, which helps speed up the opening of files and apps, improve data access speed, and enhance most processes that involve accessing the disk drive.

Right below, you see recommended options that link to Auslogics Store entries (see the Auslogics Store section further in this guide). Click on the task you would like to accomplish, such as "**Clean up your drives**" and get a software recommendation to help you do the job.

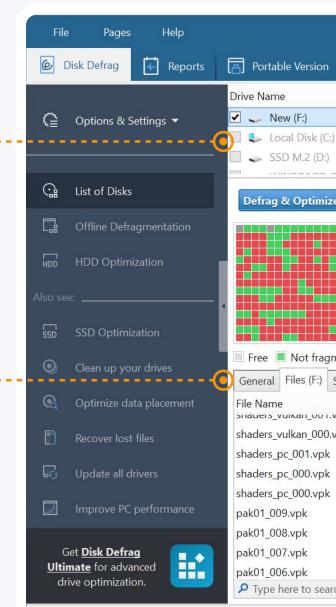
# **Using Disk Defrag**

Besides defragmenting files on your drives, Disk Defrag offers various optimization options that help improve data access speed even further. To ensure maximum optimization effect, get familiar with the program's functionality before using it.

The first screen you see when you launch Disk Defrag displays the list of your drives at the top, the cluster map right below it, and details on drive status in the lower part of the window. Click on a drive to select it and have detailed information about it displayed below.

The tabs let you switch between general information, the list of files located on the drive (shown after disk analysis), technical details for the disk, and its S.M.A.R.T. status (including disk temperature).

The cluster map provides a clear picture of the fragmentation on the selected disk.



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		369.7	0 GB	118.92 GE	NTFS	SSD ፤	0	0	Ready
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## **Using Disk Defrag Analyze drives**

Before you launch defragmentation or optimization, disk analysis is recommended. It reads disk information and shows you a true picture of the disk's condition and recommended actions.

## To perform disk analysis, follow these steps:

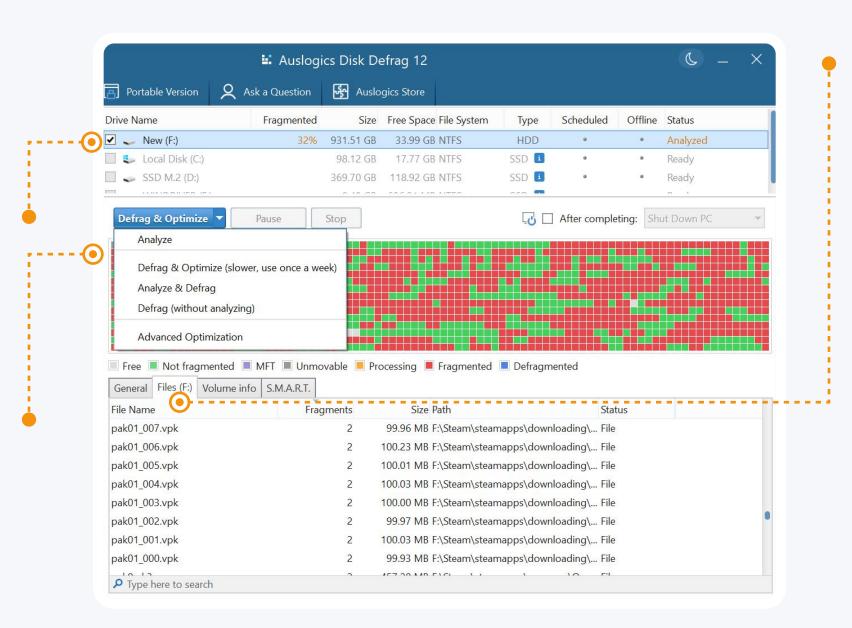
- In the list of disks, select the disk you would like to analyze by
  - checking the box next to its name.
- 2

3

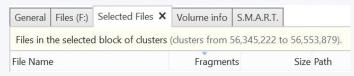
Click on the arrow on the "Defrag & **Optimize**" button below the list and select "Analyze" from the dropdown menu.

While the operation is underway, its current status is shown below the cluster map, as well as in the disks list next to the name of the disk being analyzed.

Upon completion, analysis results will be displayed below the cluster map.



You can switch to the **Files** tab to view a list of fragmented files and, if desired, select the files you want to defragment individually.



When you select a file from the list, the location of its fragments will be highlighted on the cluster map. Clicking on a block on the cluster map will produce an additional tab-Selected Fileswhich will let you view a list of files in the block that you selected on the map.

## Using Disk Defrag Check disks for errors

Before you launch defragmentation, it is a good idea to check your disks for errors.

Whenever a disk has errors, there is a risk that data may get corrupted during defragmentation. By checking for errors and fixing any errors that are found, you ensure that no data will get lost or corrupted when you launch defragmentation.

### **NOTE**

You can use the "Options & Settings" link on the left-side panel to perform other operations on your disks and to adjust program settings.



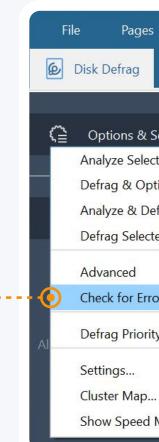
In the list of disks, select the disk you would like to scan for errors by checking the box next to its name.



Click on the "**Options & Settings**" link on the left-side navigation panel and choose the "**Check for Errors -> Check Selected**" option. This will launch the Windows Check Disk tool (CHKDSK).



If errors are found during the check, you should try fixing them before you proceed to defragment the disk. To do this, click on the "**Options & Settings**" link on the left-side navigation panel and choose "**Check for Errors -> Check & Correct Selected.**"



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# Using Disk Defrag Defragment drives

When you are ready to start defragmenting, follow these steps:

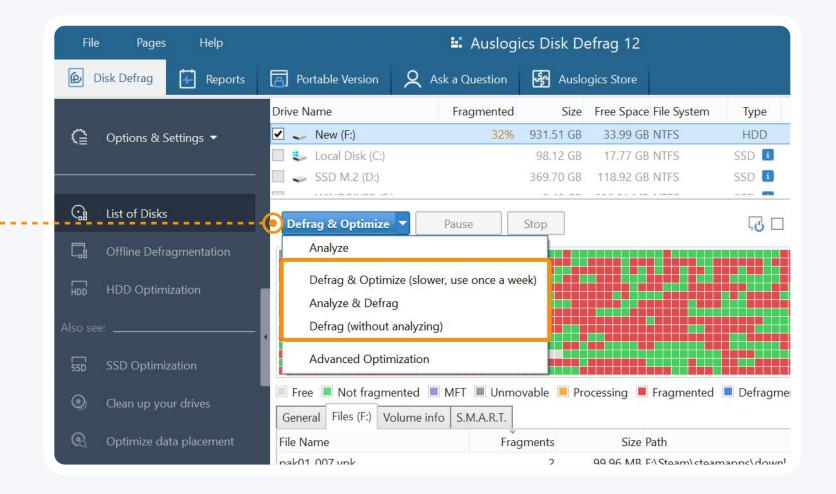


In the list of disks, select the disk you would like to defragment by checking the box next to its name, click the arrow next to the "**Defrag & Optimize**" button, and select "**Defrag.**"

While the operation is underway, its current status is shown in the main pane, as well as in the disks list next to the name of the disk being defragmented.

2

Upon completion, defragmentation results will be displayed below the cluster map with a brief description of the result shown in the list of disks.



**Offline defragmentation** runs during system startup, before the operating system loads. This process optimizes crucial system files that are typically locked while the OS is running. The files targeted by offline defragmentation include:

1

**MFT (Master File Table) files:** Streamlining these files improves the efficiency of file system operations.

2

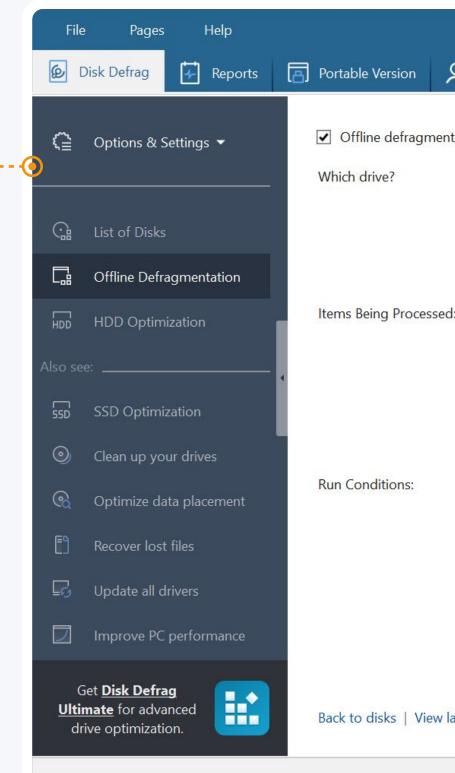
**Paging file:** Defragmenting the paging file can reduce the time required for virtual memory management, leading to smoother system performance.



**Hibernation file:** Optimizing this file enhances the speed of entering and resuming from hibernation.



Windows registry files: A defragmented registry can speed up system boot times and application loading.



5	Auslogics Disk Defrag 12
Q Aska (	Question 🛃 Auslogics Store
tation	
	Defragment all local disk drives, or select one or more disk drives:
	New (F:)
:	MFT Files
	✓ Paging File 1
	Hibernation File
	Registry Files
	• Once during the next boot
	On every boot

Back to disks | View last report | View all reports | Program settings

# Using Disk Defrag Optimize drives

Unlike simple defragmentation, the **Defrag & Optimize** mode applies several optimization techniques:

efrag & Optimize 🔻	Pause	Stop
Analyze		
Defrag & Optimize (s Analyze & Defrag	slower, use once	a week)
Defrag (without analy	/zing)	
Advanced Optimizati	on	

### FREE SPACE CONSOLIDATION

Free space on a disk is often split into many small gaps between files. Windows fills these gaps with newly created or extended files. The more fragmented the free space is, the more fragmented new files will be. Disk Defrag merges free space into a large contiguous block during optimization. This technology effectively prevents further file fragmentation and increases file write speed.

### SYSTEM FILES SMART PLACEMENT

System files are necessary for the operating system to perform its numerous functions. Commonly used by Windows, system files may scattered all over the disk and intermixed with regular data files. Disk Defrag moves them to th faster part of the disk. Such intelligent way of defragmentation minimizes time needed for HD to access system files and thus improves overa computer performance.

### 

This feature is disabled by default. You can enable it under the **Algorithm** tab in program settings.

### **CLEARING THE MFT RESERVED ZONE**

	Normally, the NTFS file system reserves about
	12.5% of the disk volume for the MFT records (a
/ be	place where information about every file and
	directory is stored). However, when the rest of the
he	disk space is getting low, the MFT reserved zone
	will be used for storing regular files. This may lead
DD	to MFT fragmentation. Disk Defrag moves regular
all	files from the MFT reserved zone into the rest of
	the disk space, allowing NTFS to allocate
	contiguous space for the MFT records and thus to
	prevent its fragmentation.

## To perform disk optimization, follow these steps:

1

In the list of disks, select the disk you would like to optimize by checking the box next to its name.



Click on the arrow on the "Defrag & Optimize" button and select "Defrag & Optimize" from the drop-down menu. This will launch optimization. While the operation is underway, its current status is shown in the main pane, as well as in the disks list next to the name of the disk being optimized.

### NOTE

Alternatively, you can launch operations on selected drives by clicking the "Options & Settings" link on the left-side navigation panel and choosing what you would like to do with the drive(s) from the drop-down list of options.

## HDD Optimization allows you to keep your HDD in top shape

The **HDD Optimization** feature in Auslogics Disk Defrag is designed to automatically maintain and enhance the performance of your hard disk drive. This feature can be toggled on or off, according to your preference. When enabled, it ensures that your HDD remains in optimal condition through the following methods:



It speeds up the opening of files and applications by organizing data for quicker retrieval.

- 2
- It optimizes the management and storage of small files, which improves the overall efficiency of data access operations.
- 3
- It decreases the number of write operations required, leading to faster data saving processes and extending the lifespan of the HDD.



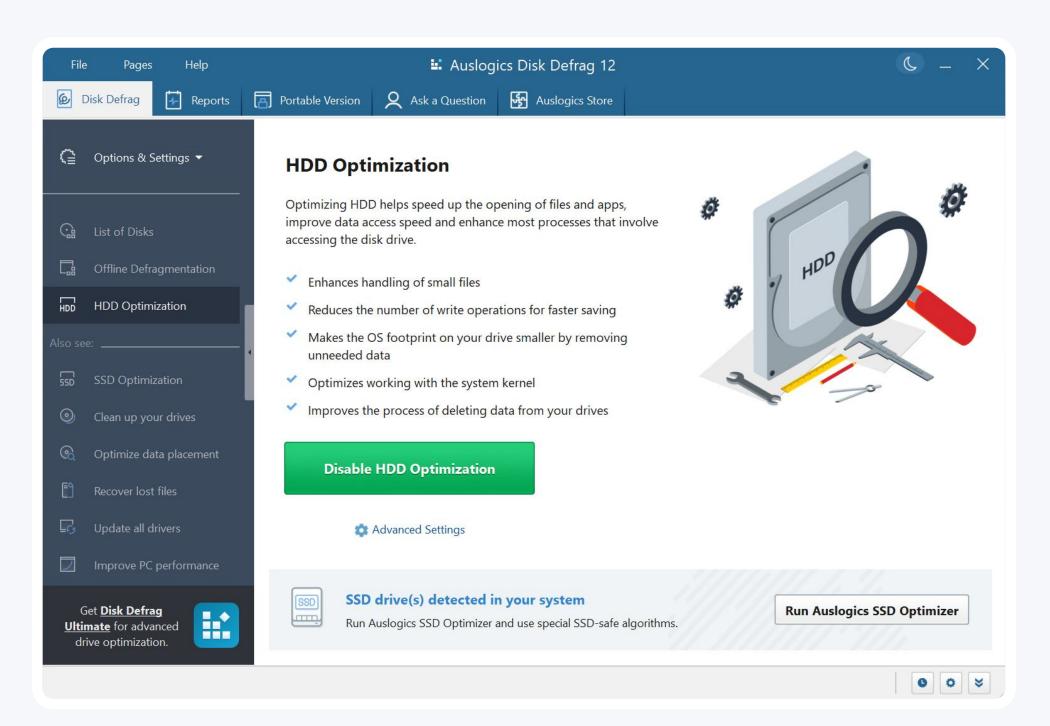
It reduces the operating system's footprint on your HDD by removing unneeded and temporary files, thus freeing up valuable disk space.



It enhances the interaction with the system kernel, which results in smoother and more efficient system performance.



It improves the process of deleting files, ensuring that the space is efficiently reclaimed and ready for new data.



## Enabling or disabling HDD Optimization Tweaks allows for more customization options

In the HDD Optimization window, click "Advanced Settings." Activate or deactivate the tweaks according to your preference by toggling them on or off and click "Save."



Enable WriteCache: Enables write caching and disables buffer flushing for better performance with numerous small files. Recommended for laptops with an independent power source.



**Disable LastAccessUpdate:** Disables the update of the last access time on files, significantly speeding up access on NTFS volumes and SMR HDDs. Configurable via fsutil, registry, or IOCTL commands.



**Enable Trim:** Enables TRIM for SMR HDDs, optimizing long-term performance and write operations. The improvement may take time to become apparent.



Enable Prefetcher: Enables Prefetch and Superfetch services to reduce read operations and head movements on HDDs, improving OS load times.



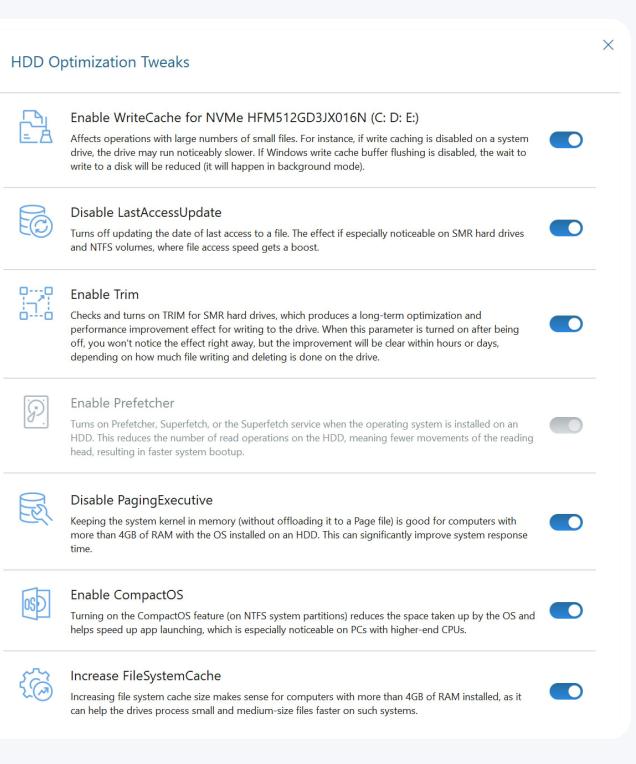
**Disable PagingExecutive:** Keeps the system kernel in RAM instead of paging it, enhancing responsiveness on systems with more than 4GB of RAM.



Enable Compact OS: Activates Compact OS to reduce the OS footprint and speed up application launches, especially on systems with a powerful processor.



Increase FileSystemCache: Expands the file system cache on systems with more than 4GB of RAM, improving performance for small and medium-sized files.



## Reports

Using the **Reports** tab in Disk Defrag, you can review your current resource consumption and manage operation reports.

On the left side of the screen, you can monitor current resource use statistics. This provides a great overview of how your system is handling all the tasks and applications that are currently running on it. If you see extremely high CPU, disk, network, or memory loads, you will know that something might be wrong and will be able to take action.

File Pages Help		🗳 Auslogi	cs Disk Defrag 12			C – X
Disk Defrag 🗭 Reports	Portable Version	Ask a Question	Auslogics Store			
(i) Here you will find current s	system resource load charts	and can view reports on	all operations.			
CPU (8%) Detailed view	~~~umumumum	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	100%		oorts view all reports on all operatic or a specific time period for a	
Disks (298 KBps)			150 MBps 0	Name Report Report Report - Offline D	Tool System Information System Information Defra Disk Defrag	Date  13-Nov-24 08-Nov-24 08-Nov-24
Performance Network (561 Bps)			200 KBps			
Memory (79%)						
Update Drivers		Crea	ate System Report	View Report		Delete Reports 🔻

On the right side, you see a table that lists reports created after every operation. You see the report name, the name of the tool that created it, and the date when the operation ran. The filter above the table lets you search for specific reports by creation time.

Click on a report in the table to select it, then click the "View **Report**" button below the table to view it. Use the "**Delete Reports**" button to delete all reports ever created or just the reports listed above (the ones that match your search filter); you can select the option you want from the drop-down menu that opens when you click on the "Delete Reports" button arrow.

## **Auslogics Store**

The Auslogics Store tab lists software programs made by Auslogics or its partners and recommended for your PC.

This is also where you can see special deals and discounts available to you. You can click a button to go straight to an online cart and purchase software using your exclusive discount.

To install and try a recommended program, click the "Buy now" button next to it. This will open a window with a brief summary of what the software can do for your PC, and a link to download and install it.

Once a recommended program has been installed, it will show as installed and will have a "Run" button and a "See status" link next to it.



These programs may offer a trial or a free version, but require a license to be purchased for full functionality. Installing or using any of them is completely optional.



### Exclusive offer for registered users o

These additional programs from Auslogics and partners are recommended for y

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## **Portable version**

Defragment and optimize drives on all your computers without installing the program.

Portable software is software that runs from a removable storage device, such as a USB flash drive. It does not need to be installed on the computer to run and does not store data on your system. Instead, you can have all your settings and files related to this software stored on the removable drive. Portable software is lightweight and allows you to easily move the application between computers.

### Auslogics Disk Defrag

① If you plan to use Disk Defrag Portable for commercial purposes, please <u>purchase a license</u>.



**Disk Defrag Portable:** defragments and optimizes drives on all your PCs without installing the program

Create portable version

To create a portable version of Disk Defrag, click on the "**Create portable version**" button and let the program save the files on your PC. Once Disk Defrag Portable is created, you can locate it by clicking the "**Open folder**" button. Move the file to a USB drive or any other removable storage device and use Disk Defrag on any PC you want defragmented.

## Ask a Question

The Ask a Question tool lets you ask online experts your questions related to using Auslogics software or to getting your PC optimized. You can also browse through other questions and answers there and see if what you need has already been posted before.

To use the feature, you need to get registered by providing your email address and a display name. To do that, click on the "**Sign Up**" button. Click the link, then enter your name or a nickname you'd like to be identified by on forum pages, and hit the "**Register**" button.

Once you click the "**Register**" button, go to your inbox at the address you specified in the form and look for a confirmation message with your automatically generated password. You will need to use that password to log in when you go to ask your question. Return to Disk Defrag and click the "Sign In" button to continue.

ram technical support	
Ask a Question New	Auslogics Disk Defrag (version 12.x)
Get professional answers here Auslogics proudly presents a new unique feature: a way for you to directly contact our computer expects	✓ Program registered
If you have any questions regarding Windows, PC, installed software or devices, ask our experts and receive a comprehensive answer.	Registered since: 30-Aug-24 (through 26-Jun-2
Choose a question category:	
Windows questions	Latest Questions
Software questions	29-Sep-24 Windows 10 CD Drive not working but showin as "working properly"
Device questions	My CD drive has stopped working. It has power, opens and
Having problems with Auslogics software?	starts spinning but then nothing. When I click on CD drive in system information I get Can't Collect Information cannot Read Now
Ask your question as many times as you need: it's always free.	28-Sep-24 <b>Windows Update</b> Windows update is not working properly <b>Read Now</b>
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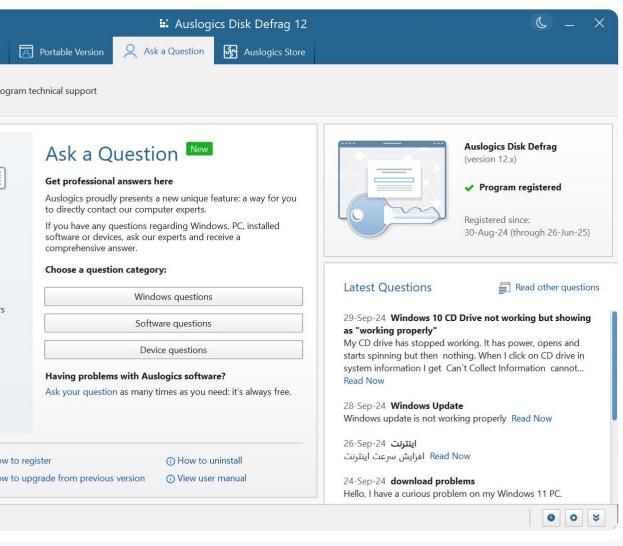
Once logged in, click on a category name for your question, which will open a form that will let you fill in your question details. Select the subcategory for your question topic, type in a descriptive subject, and write your question in the big blank field. You can also use the "Add file" option to add screenshots or other files to provide more information on the issue you are having. When done, click the "Send" button. Your question will be reviewed and posted on the web forum, and you will be able to log in and view answers to your question there.

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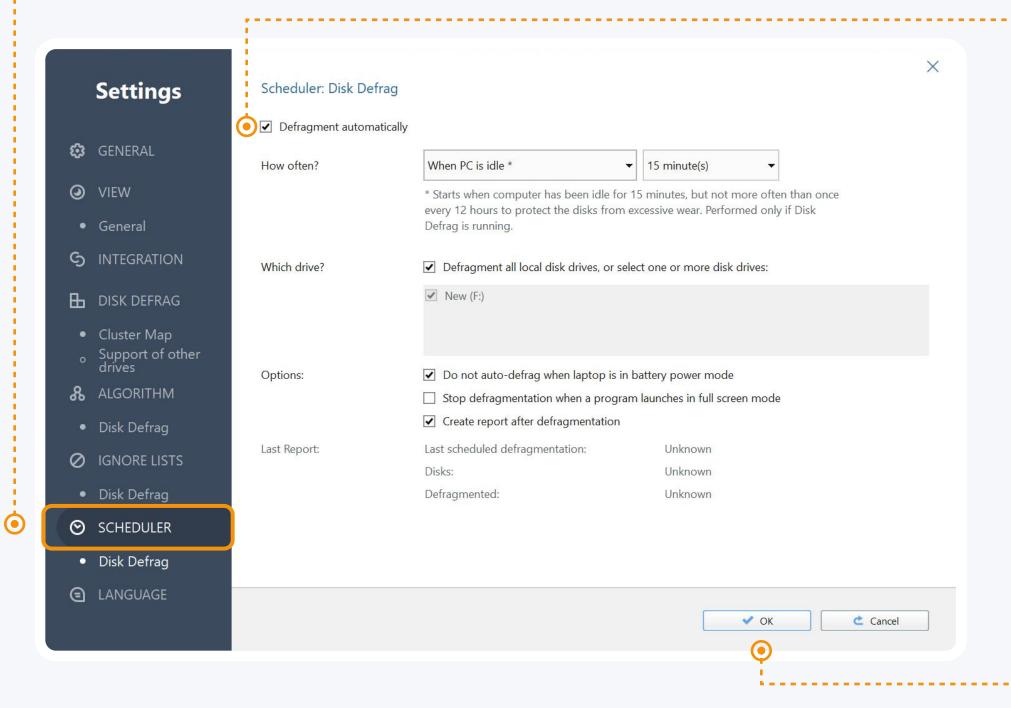
File Pages Help

To access the forum, click the "**My account**" button or use the link that was emailed to you with your password. In the lower part of this screen, you see links to the most common help topics. On the right, find the latest questions posted by users through the Ask a Question tool. Clicking on the "Read Now" link will take you to the question on the Auslogics forum, where you can read the answers and browse other questions.



# Scheduling Defragmentation

Running defragmentation regularly helps support consistent PC speed. Disk Defrag comes equipped with the **Scheduler** that provides an array of options you can configure for automatic defrags: set up defragmentation by time (runs exactly at the specified time, regardless of whether the program is running) or set Disk Defrag to run when your PC is in idle state (runs only when the program is running). Idle time defrag stops when user activity on PC is resumed.



To configure scheduled defragmentation, follow these steps:



5

main program window.

Click on the clock icon at the bottom-right of the

In the window that pops up, check the "Defragment automatically" box.

Specify when you want defragmentation to be launched.

4 Select the disks that you want to enable the scheduler for by checking the boxes next to the disk names.

You can also set the program not to launch defragmentation when your PC is in battery power mode by checking the appropriate box.

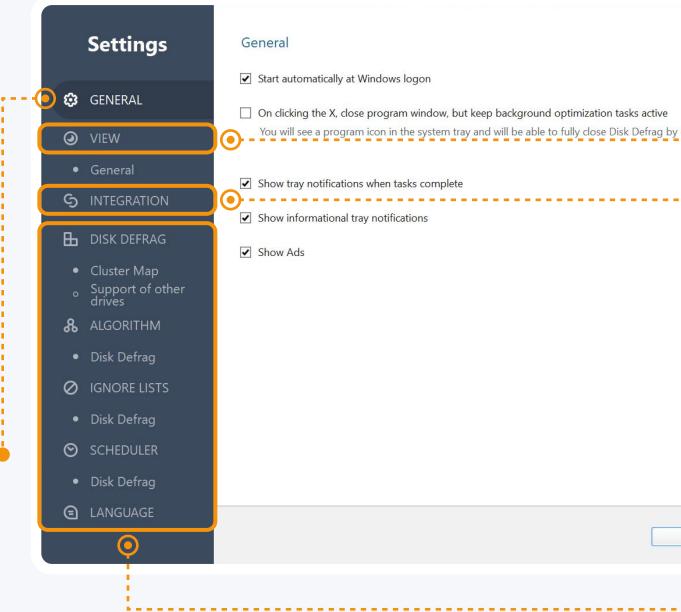
Click "**OK**" when done.

# **Customizing Program Settings**

• • •

The **Settings** manager allows you to change the program's appearance and behavior, tweak algorithms, and set exclusions.

To access Disk Defrag settings, click on the gear icon at the bottom-right of the main program window. A new window will appear, with its own navigation pane on the left. Click through the options on the navigation pane and adjust the settings to satisfy your needs: Under **General**, you can specify the program's behavior (whether you want it to start at Windows logon or be minimized on close, etc.).



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Under **View**, select the size of interface elements and temperature display units.

Under **Integration**, you can have Disk Defrag added to context menu for faster defrags or have it set as your default defragmenter.

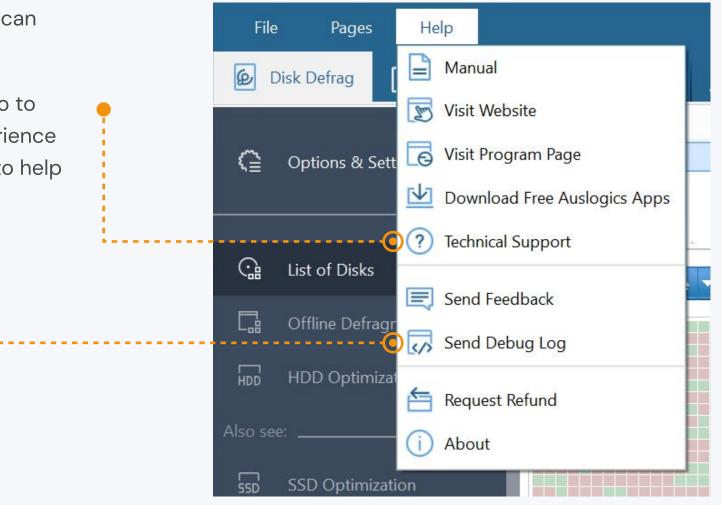
Further down, you can customize cluster map appearance, fine-tune program algorithm, and specify exclusions, if needed.

When done, click "**OK**" to exit and apply all changes.

# **Contacting Auslogics**

There are a number of ways to contact Auslogics, including several you can reach right from Disk Defrag's **Help** menu.

Click on "**Help**" in the main menu, then select "**Technical Support**" to go to the contact form on <u>auslogics.com</u> and send us a message. If you experience technical issues with the program, you can click on "**Send Debug Log**" to help our team get to the root of the problem.



Many of the questions you may have regarding Auslogics Disk Defrag have already been answered in the <u>FAQ section</u>. Auslogics Support Center also offers a way to retrieve a lost license key, request a refund, download product manuals, and more. Should you have any questions that are not answered on the website, don't hesitate to email our dedicated customer support team 24/7 at the following address: <u>support@auslogics.com</u>.

# Thank you for using Auslogics Software!

