

# Matching Hard Drive Serial Numbers

Scott A. Moulton

This link is where I keep track of documentation on how each hard drive needs to be matched for a working donor drive. I get this any where I can, use it if you can, and if you happen to find something out please let me know so I can add it to the collection!

## NOTES

Drives with the same model number can still have different numbers of heads, therefore the board is different. It is possible to identify the number of heads in a drive: Maxtor, Quantum, Seagate from the serial numbers:

## MAXTOR DRIVES

The second number of the serial number represents the number of heads  
Maxtor needs the 2nd and 3rd char to match

- **DiamondMax Plus 9**

**For the following Maxtor hard drive models: Fireball 3, DiamondMax 16, DiamondMax Plus 8, DiamondMax Plus 9, Diamond Max 10 and all MaxLine products there is also a GTLA Number on the model (next to barcode on the bottom of the drive).**

**Format 1Y222J2223322. 1, 2 and 3 stand for numbers, Y and J for letters.**

**The numbers 1 and 3 as well as the letter Y need to be identical to be able to replace the PCB on these drives.**

**This number can be found on the large sticker on the top of the drive.**

**Unfortunately we can not give you any more information than this. Any of your DiamondMax Plus 9 drives could possibly have a matching PCB, however it is most likely to be an older one as the drive in question is almost 3 years old.**

Kind regards,

Gisela Schubert  
Technical Support  
Maxtor Ireland Ltd.

- copied from:
- <http://forum.hddguru.com/howto-how-to-replace-maxtor-calypto-iii-board-vt5977.html>

## QUANTUM

Quantum – the third number in the serial number shows the heads  
Quantum = HA code must match

## SEAGATE

Seagate – the third SYMBOL in serial number represents the heads.

Seagate's sometimes have extra heads and when one is refurbished it is possible to turn off a bad head and turn on an alternate one and then the firmware number revision might change.

## FUJITSU

Fujitsu needs the first xx-Xxxx to match

## IBM and HITACHI DRIVES

Usually the same drive

# Matching Hard Drive Serial Numbers

Scott A. Moulton

IBM MLC codes have to match

## HITACHI

Hitachi ATMR 80gigs fails most

Hitachi 3.5 – Firmware code needs to match

Hitachi 2.5 – pcb rev has to match

## WESTERN DIGITAL DRIVES

DCM codes for the (5th??? And) 6th numbers must match.

No Western Digital drives with the letter R in the code. EB and BB models.

Western Digital Drives EB and BB have the head stack affixed from the lid.

Western Digital the sixth char in the model is the cache. U = 2meg V=8meg

## SAMSUNG

Samsung the 4th Char in the alpha code on the label on the rear side needs to match

Samsung the 7th char in the model is the size of the buffer H=8megs

## Serial Number on Hard Drive

The boot sector in the FAT32 partition

43h	4	The serial number, the serial number is stored in reverse order and is the hex representation of the bytes stored here.
-----	---	---

## The boot sector in the FAT partition

The data contained in the boot sector after the OEM name string is referred to as the BIOS parameter block or BPB

27h	4	The serial number. The serial number is stored in reverse order and is the hex representation of the bytes stored here.
-----	---	---

## REFURBISHED DRIVES

REFURBISHED drives can not be used as a donor drive.

Head 0 is the bottom head and could be bad.