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## Seagate Barracuda XT (3TB)

## In most ways, this Barracuda XT is a typical 3.5-inch hard drive: It spins at 7,200 rpm (still the desktop standard) has 64MB of cache, and supports the new 6-Gbps SATA III technology for top-speed data transfers. But to take advantage of its full extra-large capacity, you need to deal with the logical block addressing issue that occurs with hard drives over 2.19TB. With the first 3TB drive on the market, the Western Digital Caviar Green , Western Digital included a Host Bus Adapter (HBA) card that ensured every PC knew how to talk to the drive. Because Asus manufactures other PC components, it hammered out a software program called Disk Unlocker that opened up the space between 2.19TB and 3TB—but only on Asus motherboards.

If you store all your data in the cloud, it might be hard to fathom an external hard drive doing double duty as a status symbol. That's exactly what the sleek, wildly fast, and eye-wateringly expensive Samsung Portable SSD X5 is, though. Following in the footsteps of both Samsung's own flagship external drives like the Portable SSD T5 and design-forward works of hard drive art from LaCie and others, the X5 offers copious amounts of solid-state storage at extreme speeds, thanks to its use of the cutting-edge Thunderbolt 3 and PCI Express NVMe interfaces. It would make a killer gift for Mac-bound video editors who shoot in 4K or photographers who work in RAW, but it's overkill for pretty much anyone else. If you store all your data in the cloud, it might be hard to fathom an external hard drive doing double duty as a status symbol. That's exactly what the sleek, wildly fast, and eye-wateringly expensive Samsung Portable SSD X5 is, though. Following in the footsteps of, thanks to its use of the cutting-edge Thunderbolt 3 and PCI Express NVMe interfaces. It would make a killer gift for Mac-bound video editors who shoot in 4K or photographers who work in RAW, but it's overkill for pretty much anyone else.

### SPEC DATA:

#### Type:

Internal

#### Storage Capacity (as Tested):

3 TB

#### Rotation Speed:

7200 rpm

#### Ports:

SATA