SABRENT
Connecting Differently™

ROCKET XTRM 5

EXTERNAL THUNDERBOLT™ 5 NVMe SSD

XTRM 5 / USER MANUAL

FEATURES

- Connects at up to Thunderbolt™ 5 speeds (80Gbps) with transfers up to 64Gbps
- Backward compatible with Thunderbolt™ 4 mode up to 40Gbps
- USB fallback mode at up to 10Gbps (USB 3.2 Gen 2x1) with backward compatibility at 5Gbps (Gen 1x1)
- Solid aluminum construction for high durability and superior heat dissipation, with optional silicone sleeve for drop and environmental protection
- Bus-powered, plug & play, with status LED

Note: Actual drive performance may vary with conditions.
See table for OS compatibility.

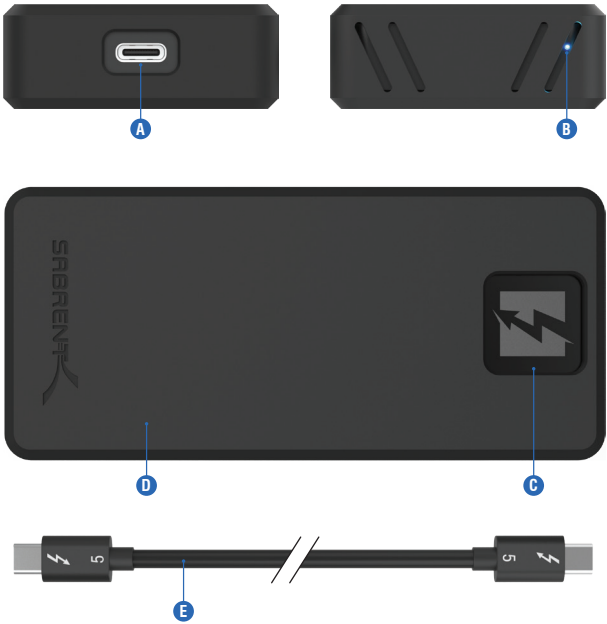
SUPPORTED OPERATING SYSTEMS

- Windows 10+
- macOS 14.4+
- Linux

PACKAGE CONTENTS

- Rocket XTRM 5 External Thunderbolt™ 5 NVMe SSD
- Thunderbolt™ 5 cable (50cm)

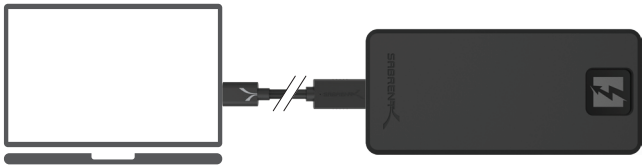
PRODUCT OVERVIEW



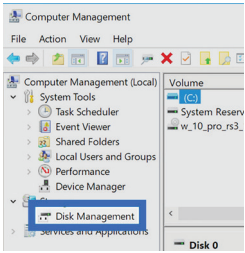
A. USB-C input port for Thunderbolt/USB connection
B. Activity LED
C. Aluminum drive casing
D. Optional silicone sleeve
E. Thunderbolt (USB-C) cable

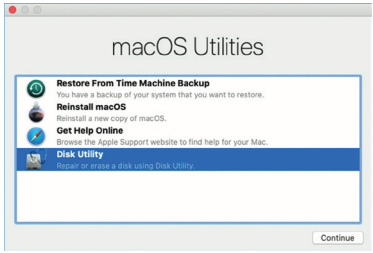
GETTING STARTED

Step 1. Plug one end of the Thunderbolt (USB-C) cable into the Rocket XTRM 5.



Step 2. Plug the other end of the cable into the desired host system.





Step 3. The drive is pre-formatted as exFAT. To change the file system, use Disk Management, Disk Utility, or equivalent application to reformat the drive.

Step 4. Access and transfer your files/data at your leisure, enjoying the fastest speeds possible. For the best performance, make sure write caching is enabled.

NOTE: When transferring files between systems, make sure that all operating systems can read the file system type and file/data type first. Host systems may require the updating of USB or Thunderbolt drivers/firmware, in some cases, for the best experience.

OPERATING SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS BY CONNECTION

Computer Port	Minimum OS Version Required
PC with Thunderbolt 4	Windows 10
PC with Thunderbolt 5	Windows 11
Mac with Thunderbolt 4 or Thunderbolt / USB4	macOS 14.4

PERFORMANCE MODES

Performance Mode	Max Speed	Potential Bandwidth
Thunderbolt 5	80 Gbps	>6 GB/s
Thunderbolt 4 Host Thunderbolt / USB4 Series M	40 Gbps	~2.8 GB/s
Thunderbolt 3 Host Older Intel Mac	10 Gbps	~1 GB/s
ASMedia USB4 Host	10 Gbps	~1 GB/s
USB 3.2 Gen 2x1	10 Gbps	~1 GB/s
USB 3.2 Gen 1x1	5 Gbps	~450 MB/s

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What are the maximum possible transfer speeds for this drive?
A. Actual transfer speeds are dependent on a wide range of factors. The first is connection speed, which can be anywhere from 80Gbps with Thunderbolt 5 to 5Gbps with USB 3.2 Gen 1x1. As Thunderbolt uses PCIe lanes for data, the actual maximum transfer speed would be 64Gbps. The transfer speeds may be subject to encoding and overhead such that the real world transfer speeds will be lower. Some operating systems may also report data sizes in different ways due to binary and decimal differences for storage.

Beyond this, transfer speeds are also contingent on the workload type and other system parameters. For example, smaller files may transfer at lower speeds. Or, doing multiple transfer streams at once could increase performance in some cases. Speeds may be impacted by limits of the source drive or file system. The host system may also have other performance limitations. Lastly, solid state drives may have an eventual decline in performance from wear, SLC caching, and in some cases thermal throttling.

Q. What is the recommended file system for this drive?
A. ExFAT provides the best overall compatibility across multiple operating systems. NTFS might be preferable if you are primarily a Windows user. Apple PCs with macOS generally use APFS and, on older hardware, HFS+. Ext4 is common and recommended for Linux, but is not natively readable in Windows or macOS. If and when formatting the drive, decide on the best file system for personal usability.

Q. What's the best way to test performance and quickly check drive health?
A. We recommended CrystalDiskInfo and CrystalDiskMark for basic performance and health testing, respectively.

Q. What about write caching? Should this be enabled? If so, how?
A. For the best write performance, write caching should be enabled on the drive. This can be done manually through the Device Manager in Windows or equivalent in other operating systems. Select the listed "disk drive" and right-click for Properties before navigating to the Policies tab, where you can set the Write-caching policy.

Q. Are there any additional tips to optimize performance and ensure compatibility?
A. For the optimal experience, a high-quality Thunderbolt cable - which we provide - should always be used with the drive. The drive should have enough power through TB power delivery to allow the drive to hit its maximum performance level. If you are using an older system, this drive can still be useful as it is backward compatible and will work with future devices with TB5+ support as well.

Please contact our Technical Support Team for additional troubleshooting

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