



## **Stellar Wipe**

Version 2.0

### **User Guide**

## Overview

Stellar Wipe is a comprehensive solution to maintain your computer privacy by wiping worthless yet sensitive information from your computer, beyond recovery. Stellar Wipe can be used to wipe specific file(s) or entire Hard Drive.

Operating systems store record of all activities such as browsing Internet, opening documents constantly. In addition, deleted or formatted data also has traces on hard drive, data recovery software use these traces to recover data, making the hard drive inefficient. When you delete data from hard drive the data content is not deleted entirely, instead the space occupied by previous data is marked as free space and the new data is written on that free space.

Stellar Wipe erases data completely from hard drive. Once data from the Drive is wiped by using Stellar Wipe you will not be able to recover that data. Stellar Wipe also erases all system traces. In addition, it can erase free space completely such that all traces of previously stored data will be completely removed. If you wipe the whole Hard Drive all the data present in the Drive is erased beyond recovery.

Extremely secure algorithms which confirm to the US Government DoD standards are used to ensure permanent data deletion. Stellar Wipe can use any of the algorithms for wiping process. The software is menu driven, simple to use with an intuitive interface, and requires no prior technical skill.

You can also use Stellar Wipe to create a bootable disk.

## Key Features

- **Wipe Hard Drive**

You can use the Drive Wipe feature to erase all the data of the hard drive in single step

- **Wipe Internet browsing data stored by Web browsers, such as:**

- Temporary internet files: deletes content of internet pages visited by you
- Cookies: deletes cookies left by internet sites
- Page History: cleans the history that stores list of visited web sites
- Form Values: information saved and used by web browsers to automatically complete web forms

- **Wipe file and folder**

You can erase files and folders completely from hard drive. You can select an individual file or an entire folder.

- **Wipe system traces:**

Logs such as cups access logs, install logs, console logs

- **Wipe unused space:**

You can completely erase all traces of previously stored on the unused space of hard drive. This makes a cleaner, safer and more efficient hard drive.

- **Wipe Recent File Histories**

Some applications show a list of files recently opened in them for quick access. In spite of helping user this list also act as a proof of our activity in the application. Wipe recent files history of the application helps in maintaining full privacy by deleting this list.

- **Wipe Instant Messaging**

Chat messenger help in communicating through internet by sending and receiving short text messages. Some messengers keep history of the conversation. This saved conversation should be wiped to delete any proof of the conversation. Wipe Instant messages option of the application deletes all the saved conversation in the messengers efficiently.

- **Schedule the wipe task**

You can schedule task such that wiping process defined for system traces, internet activity and volume of hard drive should start automatically at the configured option.

- **Wiping algorithm**

You can set the wiping algorithm for files and folders. You can choose any of the listed algorithms, such as Zeroes, Pseudo Random, DoD 5220.22-M, DoD 5200.28-STD, Russian standard, German Standard.

- **Create Bootable DVD**

- Stellar Wipe can be used to create bootable disk.

## Installation Procedure

Before installing the software, ensure that your computer meets the minimum system requirements.

### Minimum System Requirements

- Processor: Intel G4 or later
- RAM: 512 MB recommended
- Hard Disk: 25 MB of free space
- Operating System: Mac OS X 10.4 or later

### To install the software:

1. Unpack **SWP.dmg.zip** file.
2. After decompressing it, double click **.dmg** file. This will mount a virtual volume - SWP.
3. Double-click **SWP volume** to open SWP window. Copy Stellar Wipe to location where you want to install Stellar Wipe.
4. The Stellar Wipe icon appears on the installed location.

## Order and Register

You can purchase the software online. For price details and to place the order, click [here](#).

On confirmation of order, a pre-paid serial number is sent to you through e-mail, which would be required to register the software.

### Register Stellar Wipe:

After receiving the Registration Key, the software can be registered.

**To register the software:**

1. Click **Tools** and select **Register**.
2. Type key number, received through e-mail, in the key text box. Click **OK**.

If typed key is correct, registration will be successful. Otherwise, you will get a message to check the registration key.

## How to Update?

Update feature available in Stellar Wipe allows you to check the latest updates. This will help you to keep your application up-to-date. If updates are available for the product, update wizard pops up while you run Stellar Wipe. Otherwise, you can use Check for Updates... option in Stellar Wipe menu.

To Update Stellar Wipe, do one of the following:

- To check automatically:
  1. Run Stellar Wipe.
  2. If updates are available for the product, update screen pops up along with the main interface.
  3. Click Update button to download the latest version. It may take few seconds or minutes to download the files. Once completed, 'Update successfully installed' message appears and click OK. Click Cancel, to check for updates manually.
- To check manually:
  1. Click Check for Updates... option in Stellar Wipe menu.
  2. If updates are available, you get the update screen and follow the next step. Else, you get a message that 'There are no updates available'.
  3. Click Update button to download the latest version. It may take few seconds or minutes to download the files. Once completed, 'Update successfully installed' message appears and click OK.

After installing the latest available version, restart Stellar Wipe to get the updated application.

## User Interface

Stellar Wipe software has a rich Graphical User Interface (GUI) with easy to use features. The main user interface of Stellar Wipe is as shown below:



- **Drive Wipe:** use this to wipe Hard Drive
- **File Wipe:** use this to wipe files, folders, recent history, free space and any other information

## Menubar

The menubar of Stellar Wipe has Tools and Help menus. The items under these menus are:

- **Tools**

- **Log Report:** to view, save and clear log report generated by Stellar Wipe of wipe processes.
- **Register:** to start the registration process

- **Help**

- **Help Topics:** Opens the user guide of the software
- **Order Stellar Wipe:** Opens Stellar Wipe dialog box in which links are given for ordering the full version of software
- **Email to Stellar Support:** email directly to Stellar support
- **View Support Section:** Opens technical support website of Stellar
- **View Knowledge Base Articles:** Opens Stellar website for articles
- **Generate Enquiry:** Sends request to Stellar support

## Wipe Hard Drive

Stellar Wipe allows wiping whole Hard Drive in one step. It ensures complete and permanent erase of data beyond recovery by any tool. Extremely powerful wiping algorithms are used to wipe data quickly and permanently.

### To wipe Hard Drive:

1. In the Stellar Wipe application screen, select **Drive Wipe** option.
2. Click **Continue** button
3. Select the Drive that is to be wiped from the Drive list. Click **Continue** button.
4. Select [Wipe algorithm](#). Click **Continue** button.
5. Click **Start Wiping**. A warning message is displayed.
6. Click **OK** to start wiping.

## Wipe File

Stellar Wipe can wipe any file from hard drive. The wiped file cannot be recovered once the wiping process is finished. You can select a single file at a time to wipe. You can also select the [algorithm](#) to be used for wiping the selected file.

### To wipe file:

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select **Wipe File** option.
4. Click **Browse**, locate and select the file that needs to be wiped and click **Open**.
5. All details of the selected file is shown in the Wipe File screen. Click **Start Wiping**.

A message will be shown after the successful wiping process.

**Note:** You can only select file, not folder or drive, to wipe by using Wipe File option.

## Wipe Folder

Stellar Wipe can wipe any folder from hard drive. All files that are stored in the selected folder will also be wiped. The wiped folder cannot be recovered once the wiping process is finished. You can select a single folder at a time to wipe. You can also select the [algorithm](#) to be used for wiping the selected folder.

### To wipe folder:

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select **Wipe Folder**.
4. Click **Browse**, locate and select the folder and click **Choose**.
5. All details of the selected folder is shown in the Wipe Folder screen. Click **Start Wiping**.

A message will be shown after the successful wiping process.

**Note:** You cannot select files from the selected folder. The entire folder will be wiped not individual files from it.

## Wipe Free Space

Stellar Wipe can wipe the unused or free space completely from hard drive. When you delete data from hard drive, the space where data was stored is marked as free space. The original data remains there and the new data may overwrite the previously stored data.

The previously stored data is retrievable. If you have stored sensitive information on your computer and later deletes it then still the deleted data can be retrieved. Therefore you should wipe the free space to make your computer clean and safe. Once free space is wiped then previously stored data cannot be retrieved.

### To wipe free space:

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select Wipe Free Space.
4. Select a volume from which free space needs to be wiped. Click **Start Wiping**.

A message will be shown after the successful completion of wiping process.

## Wipe Internet Activity

Web browsers store browsing information consistently on hard drive. Information such as temporary internet files, cookies, user session are saved in different files.

These files use space on hard drive and also contain sensitive data. If user has access to your computer then the user can view these files and obtain information related to Web browsing activities. You should wipe these files to clean and protect your computer from unauthorized users.

Stellar Wipe can completely wipe Web browsing related information saved by these Web browsers:

- Camino
- Firefox
- Internet Explorer
- OmniWeb
- Opera
- Safari
- Adobe Flash Player
- Flock
- Google Chrome
- iCab
- Navigator

In addition, you can select all or specific files to be wiped that are saved by these browsers.

### To wipe Internet activity:

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select **Wipe Internet Activity**.

4. In the Wipe Web Browsers and Internet Activity screen, under List of Web Browsers, Web browsers that are installed on your computer are visible, others are greyed. Select the Web browser of which data needs to be wipe.
5. Check the check boxes of items that should be wiped. Click **Start Wiping**.

All the selected items will be completely erased.

## Wipe System Traces

Operating Systems (OSs) consistently stores all user activity on hard drive. OS creates several log files corresponding to different activities. For example, OS stores all information related to newly installed software in Install log files.

These log files consumes space and also their size keeps increasing as activities performed. An unauthorized user can view these files if the user has access to your computer and can use the information specific to you.

You should remove these log files to clean and protect your computer from unauthorized users.

**To wipe system traces:**

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select **Wipe System Traces**.
4. In the System related logs screen, all log files that are created and saved by OS is shown. Check the check boxes of log names that should be wiped. Click **Start Wiping**.

A message will be shown after the successful completion of wiping process.

## Wipe Recent File Histories

Many applications store information about the files opened in them. A fixed number of the files that were recently opened in the application is shown as a list in the 'File' menu. These file links actually speed up the file opening process but also act as a proof of the file access activity, creating a breach to privacy.

Stellar Wipe can completely wipe recent file history and any other related information saved by applications in these supported application categories :

- All Applications
- Disk Utility
- Finder
- iPhoto
- iTunes
- Quick Time
- VLC
- MPlayer
- Preview

In addition, you can select all or specific applications from the list.

To wipe Recent File Histories:

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select **Wipe Recent File Histories**.
4. In the Wipe Recent File Histories screen, under list of application, select the applications whose recent file list needs to be wiped. Click **Start Wiping**.

All the recent file history of selected items will be completely erased.

## Wipe Instant Messaging

Most of the chat messengers store chat information consistently on hard drive. Information such as login time, logout time, messages sent and received are saved in the chat history. These saved messages are a threat to users privacy.

Stellar Wipe can completely wipe instant messages related information saved by these chat messengers:

- Adium
- AIM
- aMSN
- Fire
- iChat
- ICQ
- Microsoft Messenger
- Proteus
- Skype
- Yahoo Messenger

In addition, you can select all or specific applications whose messages are to be wiped.

To wipe Instant Messages:

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select **Wipe Instant Messaging**.
4. In the **Wipe Instant Messaging** screen, under List of messengers that are installed on your computer are visible, others are greyed. Select the messengers whose messages needs to be wipe. Click **Start Wiping**.

All the selected items will be completely erased.

## Create Bootable

Stellar Wipe can be used to create bootable disk. Bootable DVD can be used to boot computer system if the operating system is not able to boot or it has crashed. Bootable disk is also useful if no operating system is loaded or the Hard Drive is blank.

You can create a bootable by Stellar Wipe if you wipe the Boot Drive.

### To create a bootable DVD:

1. Run Stellar Wipe application.
2. Select **Drive Wipe** option. Click Continue.
3. Select the boot drive for wiping from the Drive list. Click **Continue** button.
4. Select [Wipe algorithm](#). Click **Continue** button.
5. Click **Start Wiping**. A warning message is displayed.
6. Click **OK** to start wiping. Create Bootable dialog box is displayed.
7. Click **Create Bootable DVD** button.
8. Click the image in **Create Bootable DVD** dialog box
9. Choose the destination to save Disk Image file. Click **Choose**.

**Note:** If you have inserted a DVD in drive it will get ejected while creating bootable image file.

10. After the image is created click **Burn DVD** button. If no DVD is inserted in the DVD drive. A message prompt to insert a DVD is displayed. Click **OK**. DVD tray ejects automatically.
11. Insert a blank DVD and click **Burn**. A message is prompted.
12. Click **Erase** button
13. Disk burning process starts. You can click **Abort** button to stop the process.

After successful creation of bootable DVD the DVD ejects automatically.

**Note:** If you don't want to burn the image instantly then use third party tool to burn the created image.

## File Wipe Settings

You change the algorithm that should be used in wiping process. In addition, you can schedule a wiping task such that wiping process should automatically start at specified time.

- [Select Algorithm](#)
- [Schedule and configure a wipe task](#)

## Wipe Algorithm

Stellar Wipe includes different algorithms that can be used with wiping process. All are listed in ascending order of efficiency and descending order of speed. The Zeros algorithm is the quickest but least efficient, while the DoD and B.Schneier's algorithms are slower but much more efficient.

**To select an algorithm for a scheduled file wipe process:**

1. Click **Settings**
2. Select an algorithm from the [list of algorithms](#) and click **OK**

## Scheduling Tasks

You can configure and schedule a wiping task such that the configured task starts automatically at the specified time. You can configure and schedule a wiping task for system traces, Web browsers information and free space from volume.

**To configure and schedule a wiping task:**

- a) Configure the time schedule
- b) Select wiping options

### **a) Configure the time schedule**

Stellar Wipe provides you two options for setting time for a wiping task.

- **Every**

Select **Every** option if you want to schedule the task on every reboot or any day of week. Select **Every** option, click **Every** combo box and then select a day from the list.

- **On**

Select **On** if you want to schedule the task to start automatically on specified date and time.

1. Click **On** option and then click drop-down combo box to view calendar.
2. Click **back** or **forward** arrows to select past or coming months. Select a month and then click a date. This will be the date, month and year on which task will automatically starts.
3. Click **At** combo box to set the time. Place the cursor on hour, minute or AM\PM column to adjust time. Use up and down arrows to set time or manually enter the time.

### **b) Select wiping options**

Select wiping options that should be performed on specified time. You can configure the task to wipe system traces, internet activity and free space. All can be selected simultaneously or only one can be selected.

- **Select volume**

Click on a volume name of which free space should be wiped. Click **OK**, after configuring the time schedule and selecting the wiping options.

- **Select system traces:**

In the **Select task** from list box, double-click **System log** to view log files type that can be wiped. Check the check boxes of log file names that need to be wiped.

- **Select Web browser files**

In the Select task from list box, double-click Web Browsers(s) to view the list of Web browsers. Double-click a Web browser name to view files that can be wiped. Check the check boxes of file names.

- **Select Recent File Histories**

In the Select task from list box, double-click on application history whose files should be wiped. Click **OK**, after configuring the time schedule and selecting the wiping options.

- **Select Instant Messaging**

In the Select task from list box, double-click on a chat messengers whose messages should be wiped. Click **OK**, after configuring the time schedule and selecting the wiping options.

You can also remove a configure task.

**To remove a scheduled task:**

- Select Cancel Previous Scheduling option and then click **OK**.

## Log Report

You can view, clear and save log report of processes that are processed by Stellar Wipe.

- **To view log report**

On the Tools menu, select **Log Report**.

- **To save log report**

1. On the Tools menu, select **Log Report**.

2. Click **Save Log**.

3. In the Log Report to File dialog box, specify the destination to save log file. Click **Save**.

- **To clear log report**

1. On the Tools menu, select **Log Report**.

2. Click **Clear Log**.

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## Technical Support

Our Technical Support professionals will give solutions for all your queries related to Stellar Products.

You can either **Call Us** or **Go Online** to our support section <http://stellarinfo.com/support/>

<b>Support Helpline</b> <b>Monday – Friday [ 24 Hrs. a day ]</b>	
<b>USA (Tollfree- Pre Sales Queries)</b>	+1-877-778-6087
<b>USA (Post Sales Queries)</b>	+1-732-584-2700
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## Online Help

- [Chat Live](#) with an Online technician
- Search in our extensive [Knowledge Base](#)
- [Submit Enquiry](#) (If our Knowledge Base does not answer your question)

## About Stellar

Stellar Information Systems Ltd. is a trusted name in the field of Data Recovery and Data Protection Software for more than a decade.

We provide the widest range of Data Recovery Products. Our range includes Data Recovery Software for almost all Operating Systems and File Systems.

**Product line:**

### **Data Recovery**

A widest range of data recovery software that helps you recover your valued data lost after accidental format, virus problems, software malfunction, file/directory deletion, or even sabotage!. [More Info >>](#)

### **File Recovery**

The most comprehensive range of file undelete and unerase software for Windows and MS office repair tools. [More Info >>](#)

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A wide range of Prevent Data Loss, Data backup and Hard Drive Monitoring Applications to ensure complete data protection against hard drive crash. [More Info >>](#)

For more information about us, please visit [www.stellarinfo.com](http://www.stellarinfo.com)

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## FAQs

### 1. What is Stellar Wipe?

Stellar Wipe is a comprehensive solution to maintain your computer privacy by wiping worthless yet sensitive information from your computer, beyond recovery.

Stellar Wipe erases selected data completely from hard drive. Once data is wiped by using Stellar Wipe you will not be able to recover that data. Stellar Wipe also erases all system traces. In addition, it can erase free space completely such that all traces of previously stored data will be completely removed

Stellar Wipe can use any of the algorithms for wiping process. The software is menu driven, simple to use with an intuitive interface, and requires no prior technical skill. These situations include :

- When you resell your computer
- When you donate your computer
- You are recycling or disposing the hard drives or any other electronic storage media
- You are merging, reconstructing or want to stop business

If any of these situations occurs, Stellar Wipe is the ideal solution to completely wipe the data from your computer hard drive.

### 2. What are the key features of the application?

The key features of Stellar Wipe are:

- Wipe Hard Drive
- Wipe Internet browsing data stored by Web browsers
- Wipe file and folder
- Wipe system traces
- Wipe unused space
- Wipe Recent File Histories
- Wipe Instant Messaging
- Schedule the wipe task
- Wiping algorithm
- Create bootable DVD

### 3. How do I wipe my files?

Stellar Wipe can wipe any file from hard drive. The wiped file cannot be recovered once the wiping process is finished. You can select a single file at a time to wipe. You can also select the [algorithm](#) to be used for wiping the selected file.

**To wipe file:**

1. Run Stellar Wipe application
2. Select **File Wipe** option. Click **Continue**.
3. Select **Wipe File** option.
4. Click **Browse**, locate and select the file that needs to be wiped and click **Open**.
5. All details of the selected file is shown in the Wipe File screen. Click **Start Wiping**.

A message will be shown after the successful wiping process.