

The next (big!) step in SpinRite's evolution.

For released alpha histories please see the "[Release History](#)" page.

IMPROVEMENTS implemented in Release Candidate #2:

- Added FAQ 'C' "How long does SpinRite take to run?" which explains that the "Scantime" shown is for levels 1 or 2 and explains the slower speeds of higher levels.
- Fixed the drive enumeration where differing interface types showed differing mini benchmark progress bars. Now they are all solid white overwriting what's below.
- Re-engineered SpinRite's native IDE driver to fix crashes and significantly increase performance.
- Added awareness of the amount of time SpinRite consumes searching the SRLOGS directory for the highest numbered file. If that time exceeds 5 seconds, SpinRite presents an interstitial pop-up showing the count of files found, explaining the delay, and providing advice about minimizing that delay in the future.
- Fixed an important problem Paul Farrer found with very old IDE drives that don't handle LBA or DMA transfers. SpinRite was aware of them, but it wasn't handling them completely correctly -- and it has never been tested. Now it appears to be working.
- Added full read-after-write "write confirmation" during Level 5 testing and a startup explanation if this is seen at the end of the drive.
- Also added full read-after-write verification to Level 4 to verify that reading is actually reading.
- Added a verification that SpinRite's user really wants to run with FORCEBIOS, DYNASTAT 0, HASH or XFER command-line options.
- Restricts SpinRite operation to the GRC-modified release of FreeDOS to prevent weird and wacky misbehavior.
- When using ill-advised command-line options, intercept the command-line startup and obtain confirmations of intent.
- Where Shift-Enter was optionally available, now Ctrl-Enter can also be used and all on-screen prompts are switched to Ctrl-Enter.
- Current level now appears in the Main Menu's first item: "Select drive(s) for level: X". MUCH better!!
- Added a pop-up interception screen which will be displayed if the logging drive should fill up during an operation. The user can choose to disable logging and proceed or suspend and fix the trouble.
- Fixed BIOS (non-SMART) drives showing blank or wrong temperature in the blanking screen.

- Added new "keyboard" command-line option to force SpinRite to =always= use the BIOS for its keyboard I/O. This allows SpinRite to be used on Intel Mac machines with BootCamp.

IMPROVEMENTS implemented in Release Candidate #3:

- Added **drive over-temp** auto-pause and resume.
- Preventing post-run auto benchmarking upon return to main menu or exit to DOS interruption.
- I've (provisionally) switched SpinRite to using the BIOS for all keyboard I/O. This **might** fix the "Sticky SHIFT" trouble, but we KNOW that it will give us compatibility with Macs and another pure USB keyboard systems... and it should not break anything.
- Restored the "FreeDOS Lock" -- but now ONLY checking for the FreeDOS OEM ID. So SpinRite should run under ANY FreeDOS.

IMPROVEMENTS implemented in Release Candidate #4:

- Switched all CTRL and SHIFT to TAB.
- Found and fixed a crash (Illegal Opcode) caused by low logging space pop-up notice and attempts to exit.
- Added new logging entry to document over-temp events. Entry shows the number of events which occurred between other logged entries.

IMPROVEMENTS implemented in Release Candidate #5:

- Fixed the scroll-back buffer overflow discovered by millQ.