



Review of DiskTools Pro by Allen Laudenslager of the Prescott Mac User Group

The standard price is \$79.99 at: <http://www.Macwareinc.com>

Loading the software and the installer worked exactly as advertised. This was a nice change from so much of the software I have previously used on my Windows computers where something inevitably doesn't quite work as described.

Next, I ran the Scan and Repair Bad Sectors utility which restored seven fonts mostly associated with Microsoft Excel. The process took 36 minutes on my computer with a 750-gig drive. The progress indicator gives a real feeling of confidence that everything is processing and not "hanging". Each file that required restoration created a tab which allowed me to either "Restore" or "Cancel". Of course, I chose the restore option.

Then, I ran the Check for Fragmented File which found and corrected 99 fragmented files. There were 47 open files that could not be checked. The fragments were automatically fixed. I would have liked a pop-up box to identify which files were open and give me the option to check the open ones and why they were so before closing them.

My next move was to try the Find and Repair Broken Aliases. A list of broken aliases was created; by highlighting one, you were given the option to repair the broken link. To repair the broken alias, you must highlight one of the files and then select the application to associate it with. As a "semi-geek", I was at a loss to fix the broken association since I did not know which application to associate with each alias. Again, some help would have been nice.

I took this opportunity to run DiskTools Pro since I just had to repair my hard drive after a crash that forced me to erase the disk and then reload from my backup. While I did not expect to find any real problems, I did want to see if DiskTools would find anything. The few things it did find should be a clear indication that some regular maintenance is necessary even though the Mac does an excellent job of self-checking and fixing these particular problems.

My plan is to continue running the rest of the tests as problems present themselves for fixing. After the utilities that I have tried, I feel this software product is worth the price quoted above.