



**Drobo B1200i Firmware
Release Notes**
Release Date: January 24, 2012

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VERSION INFORMATION

Drobo Firmware: Version 1.0.2 [6.31.46098]

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

This is a new release of Drobo Firmware. This version of Drobo Firmware is compatible with Drobo model B1200i.

- **Improved robustness to prevent temporary memory exhaustion.**
- **Improved performance when using VMware vSphere 5.**
- **Improved overall performance with multiple concurrent connections.**
- **Improved small I/O sequential write performance.**
- **Improved sequential read performance for 32K transfer size.**
- **Improved robustness and added information to the diagnostic system.**
- **Improved automatic handling of fast disk reinserts.**
- **Fixed long reclamation time issue when the system is nearly full.**
- **Fixed 40GB VHD guest install failure in XenServer 5.6 FP1.**
- **Fixed drive bay indicator blinking until reboot after removing the corresponding drive from an unloadable disk pack.**

BEST PRACTICES

In accordance with industry best practices, you should always backup your data before any firmware upgrade. For more information, please visit <http://support.drobo.com>.

KNOWN ISSUES

All Systems

- **Symptom:** When the Expander Card functionality has been impacted, Drobo Dashboard reports the device as empty.
Condition: When the Drobo B1200i Expander Card is no longer working properly, Drobo Dashboard reports the device empty.
Workaround: Replace the Expander Card (acquire replaceable card from Drobo support; you can also order field replaceable units for Drobo model B1200i from your local Drobo reseller or from the Drobo Online Store).

- **Symptom:** Drobo Dashboard reports the default IP address instead of the DHCP acquired IP address.
Condition: When connecting the cable to the management port after the unit has been started for the first time, Drobo Dashboard reports the default IP address instead of the DHCP acquired IP address.
Workaround: Upon reconfiguring the network settings, the correct address will be displayed.

Windows Specific

- **Symptom:** Full format does not complete when using the Windows Disk Management Utility.
Condition: Drobo does not support a full format for a volume bigger than the space available in the internal drives.
Workaround: Use the Windows Disk Management Utility and choose the quick format option to format the volume.
- **Symptom:** Dynamic disk, partition resizing and BitLocker encryption do not work on Drobo volumes.
Condition: Attempting to create dynamic disks or resize Drobo volumes using the Logical Disk Manager, compromises data stored on the volumes. Volumes are no longer accessible. Attempting to encrypt mounted volumes using BitLocker compromises data stored on them and volumes are no longer accessible.
Workaround: Copy your data onto another drive and use Drobo Dashboard to create appropriate size volume. Dynamic disks and BitLocker are not supported by Drobo.
- **Symptom:** Volume mounting from Drobo Dashboard will fail when the Microsoft iSCSI Initiator is disabled.
Condition: When the Microsoft iSCSI Initiator is disabled, volume mounting from Drobo Dashboard will fail and return "Operation Failed" error.
Workaround: Enable Microsoft iSCSI Initiator from Windows Device Manager.

Mac Specific

- **Symptom:** Formatting volumes when connected to Drobo B1200i via the management port is not available.
Condition: When connected to Drobo B1200i via the management port, Drobo Dashboard can be used for changing device settings and creating or deleting volumes. Volume format is supported only when connected via iSCSI ports.
Workaround: Install Drobo Dashboard 2.1.0 on a host connected to the SAN network and which can access Drobo via an iSCSI port.
- **Symptom:** Attempting to format a new volume on a B1200i which already has 40 volumes, will fail.
Condition: When connected to a B1200i from Mac host, formatting the 41st volume will fail. Drobo Dashboard will display the "in progress" sign.
Workaround: From Activity Monitor quit the Java process and from Drobo Dashboard delete the volume
- **Symptom:** Non-destructive repartitioning is not supported.
Condition: In Mac OS X 10.5 and later, Disk Utility allows you to repartition a volume without losing the data on it. Drobo volumes do not support this functionality and should not be repartitioned once data has been placed on them.
Workaround: Copy your data onto another drive and use Drobo Dashboard to reformat your Drobo device's volume to a smaller size.
- **Symptom:** Apple Partition Map is not supported on volumes larger than 2TB.
Condition: Disk Utility allows you to change the default Partition Map Scheme from GUID to Apple Partition Map (APM). Drobo volumes larger than 2TB do not support this scheme and should not be formatted in this manner.

Workaround: Copy your data onto another drive and use Drobo Dashboard to reformat your Drobo's volume.

RELATED TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

Current Drobo technical reference materials are available on the Drobo Support Website (<http://support.drobo.com>). This includes:

- *Knowledge Base*
- *Best Practices*
- *Product Documentation*