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r/homelab

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...

## Would you trust these - 12 bay 3.5-inch hard drive cage?

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I was looking for DAS options but there are not many on the second hand market where I live.

I saw on AliExp. that there are these 12 bay 3.5-inch hard drive cage. It says that the drive bays were taken off of old servers. The back of these tiny depth disk arrays is a board with 2 SAS ports.

For me, the DAS is more educational. I wanna play with it at home. And it would be favorable because I don't have a rack.

Has anyone tried these?

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EtherMan • 10mo ago

They're generally fine as such, but know that such cases often use backplanes with some quite peculiar power connections. And as an example, the DL360pG8 backplane uses different power from a DL360eG8 backplane which is different again from the 380pG8. Basically, be very careful and know what it is you're buying so you can get an exact power adapter. And some of them even use non standard voltages like 48V and stuff like that so not just a matter of getting the right cables, you need to have some power conversion in there too.

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koi-sama • 10mo ago

It's exactly what they say - a drive bay from some recycled 2U chassis, not a DAS. However, you could make a nice enclosure and basically build your own.

Make sure it comes with all drive trays, because looking for trays will be hard and expensive. I would also avoid anything that isn't using normal molex connectors for power and think twice before getting anything with an expander.

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correct me if im wrong, but if i fill up the bays with drives, and connect it to my server, isnt that what a DAS is?

genuine question, still new to storage.

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good point about trays.

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ProtoAMP • 19d ago

Not trying to revive an old thread, but why avoid ones with molex connectors? The chassis I'm looking at powers the backplane and (12) drives using 4x molex connectors.

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Top-Conversation2882 • 10mo ago

Not tried this but what exactly do you want to achieve with it?

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mainly want to play with it. but also i have 11 drives in my Fractal R6 case. They get hot when all bays are used. Also the replacement trays are hard to get.

so id like to (maybe) setup a DAS and connect move the drives to there ans connect to my HBA

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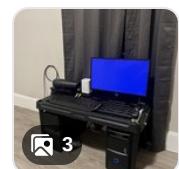
### 3 x 5.25" to 4 x 3.5" HDD cage recommendations

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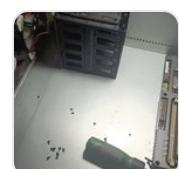
### Do you NEED to put the HDD cage back into the case? Can you just leave it out?

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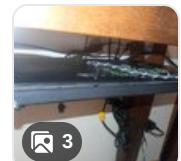
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