

Table 1: The characteristics of donor drive compatibility for head stack replacement

Family/Manufacturer	Firmware	Country	Part number	Other characteristics
Maxtor (all families)	+	+	-	Third character in alphabetic code type X, X, X, X should match
Fujitsu(all families)	-	+	-	First character in firmware revision (xx-Xxxx) should match
IBM (up to AVER family)	+	+	+	
IBM (after AVER-AVER)	+	+	+	There is a strict relation between a head stack type and MLC code, so MLC code must be identical
Hitachi 3.5'	+	-	+	CPU firmware revision should match
Hitachi 2.5'	-	+	-	PCB revision match is mandatory
Quantum (up to Plus AS family-AS)	+	-	-	
Quantum Plus AS, D540X, D740X	+	+	-	The alphabetic code on the HA must be identical
Toshiba	-	+	-	
Fujitsu 2.5'	+	+	-	
Western Digital	+	-	-	In the alphabetic DCM code the sixth (and quite desirably the fifth) characters must be identical
Samsung	-	+	-	Forth character in the alphabetic code printed on the label at the rear side od the drive should match
Seagate	+	+	-	

Drives of the same family can be modified by the manufacturer, therefore given recommendations should be followed