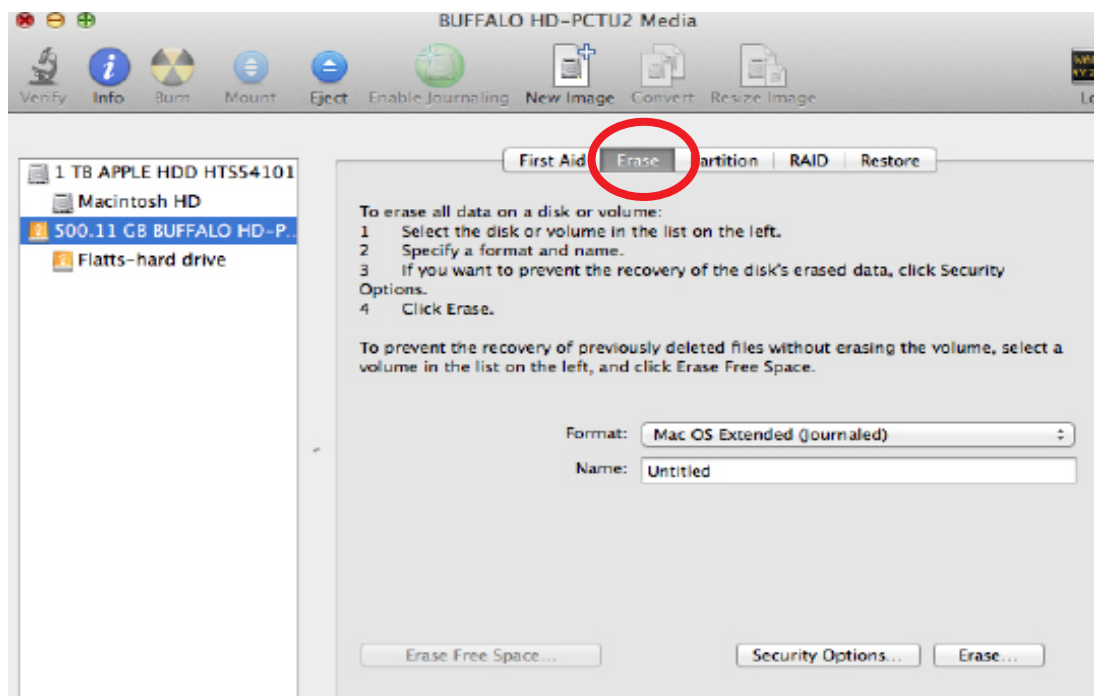


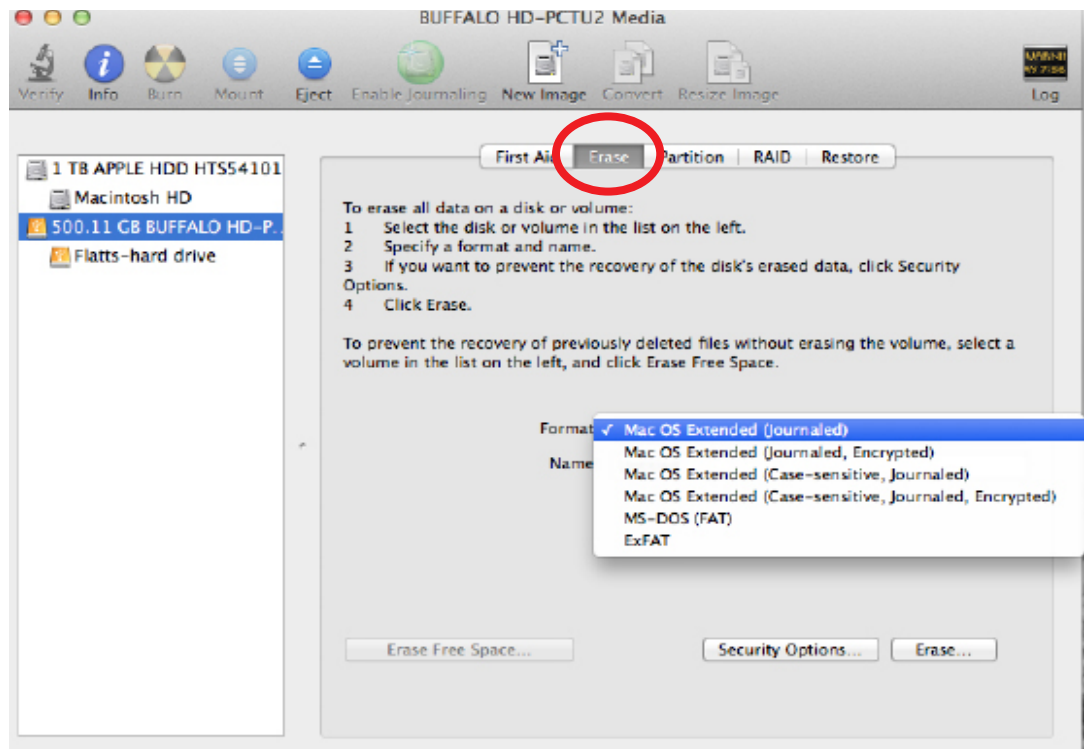
# Formatting External Hard Drives for Mac Users

It is good practice to format your hard drive. This will erase any old data and prepare the hard drive for initial use. Here are some quick steps that will help you along this process.

- ① Plug your hard drive into your computer.
- ② Wait for your computer to recognize your hard drive (you'll see an icon for your hard drive on your home screen).
- ③ Open the **Disk Utility** application. This application is in your **Applications** folder. (Or you can type "Disk Utility" into the spotlight search bar)
- ④ Once you are in the **Disk Utility** application, select your hard drive. Then click the erase tab.



- ⑤ Now select a drive format. If you're using the hard drive exclusively with Mac OS X, we recommend **Mac OS Extended (Journaled)**.



- ⑥ Click erase.

- ⑦ After the process is complete, double click on your hard drive icon on the desktop and name your hard drive.