

TrueCrypt

Free open-source disk encryption software for Windows Vista/XP, Mac OS X, and Linux

Beginner's Tutorial

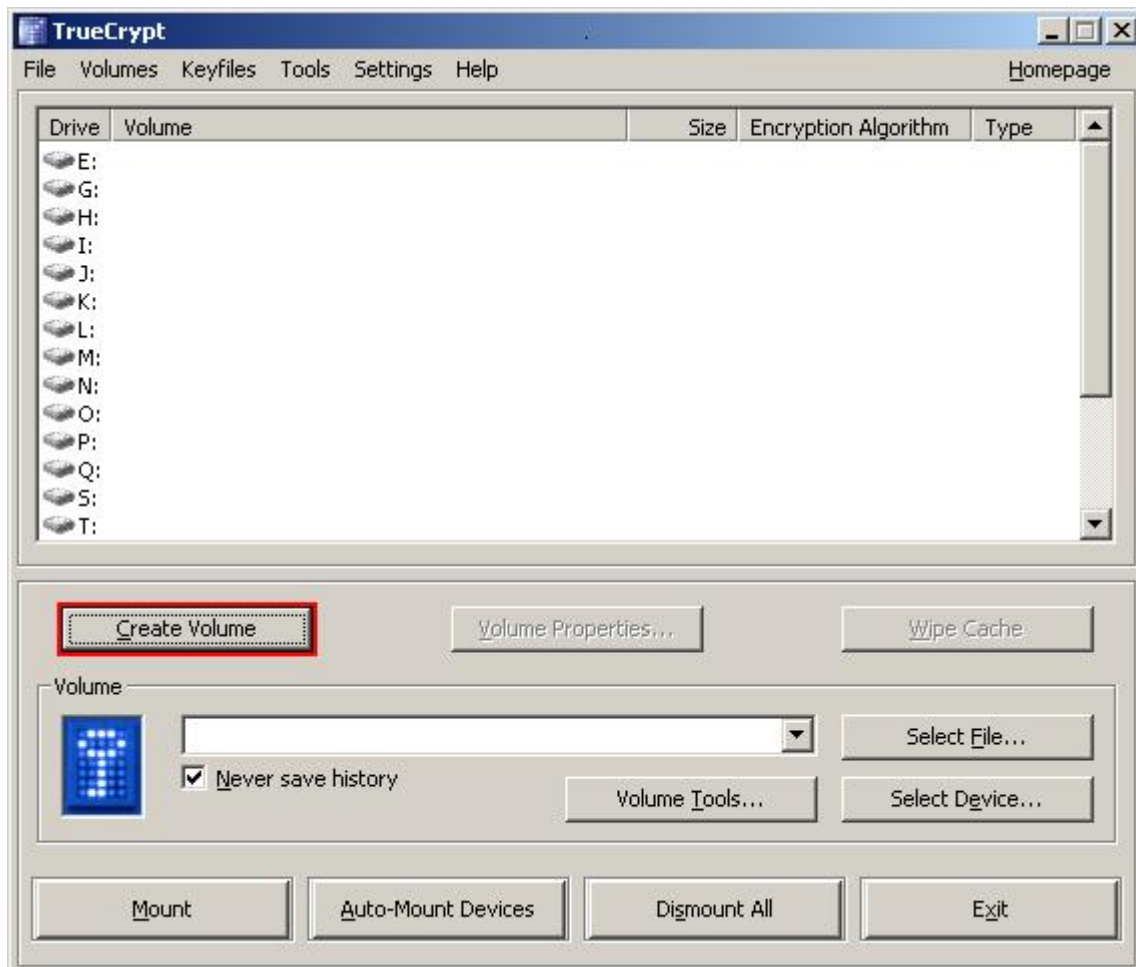
How to Create and Use a TrueCrypt Container

This tutorial contains step-by-step instructions on how to create, mount, and use a TrueCrypt volume.

Step 1:

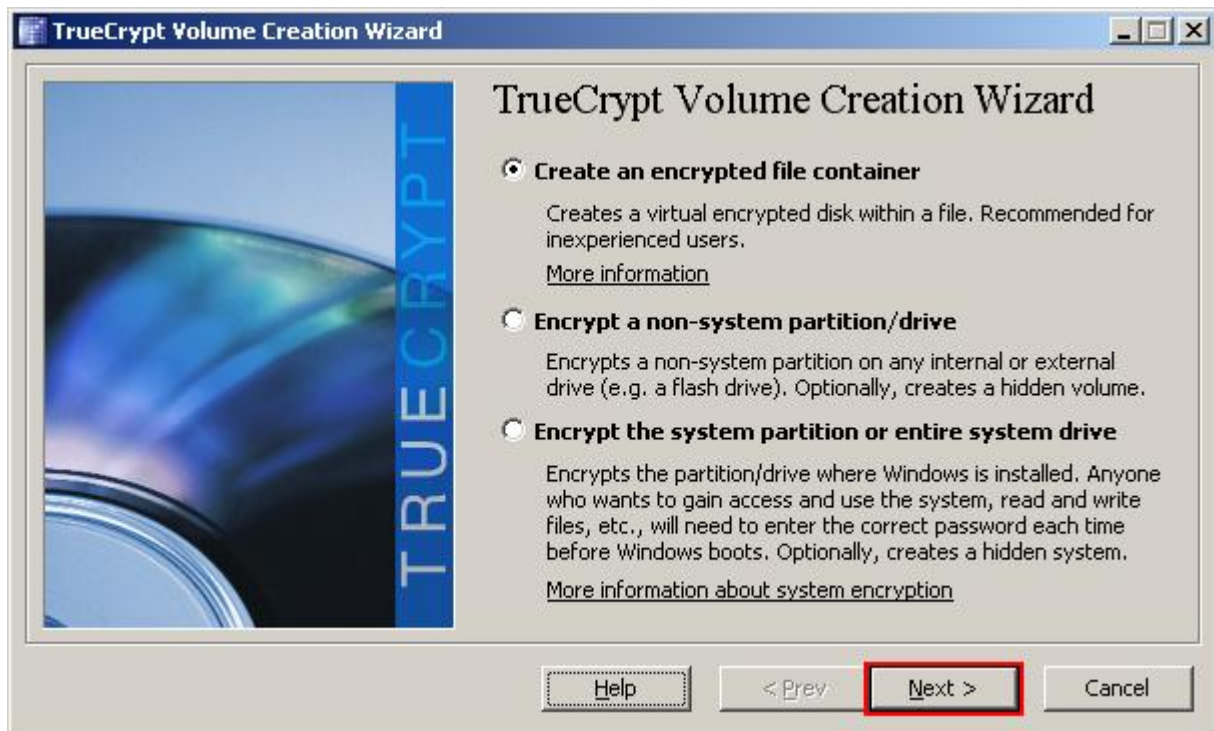
If you have not done so, download and install TrueCrypt. Then launch TrueCrypt by double-clicking the file *TrueCrypt.exe* or by clicking the TrueCrypt shortcut in your Windows Start menu.

Step 2:



The main TrueCrypt window should appear. Select a drive letter from the list. Click **Create Volume** (marked with a red rectangle for clarity).

Step 3:



The TrueCrypt Volume Creation Wizard window should appear.

In this step you need to choose where you wish the TrueCrypt volume to be created. A TrueCrypt volume can reside in a file, which is also called container, in a partition or drive. In this tutorial, we will choose the first option and create a TrueCrypt volume within a file.

As the option is selected by default, you can just click **Next**.

Note: In the following steps the screenshots will show only the right-hand part of the Wizard window.

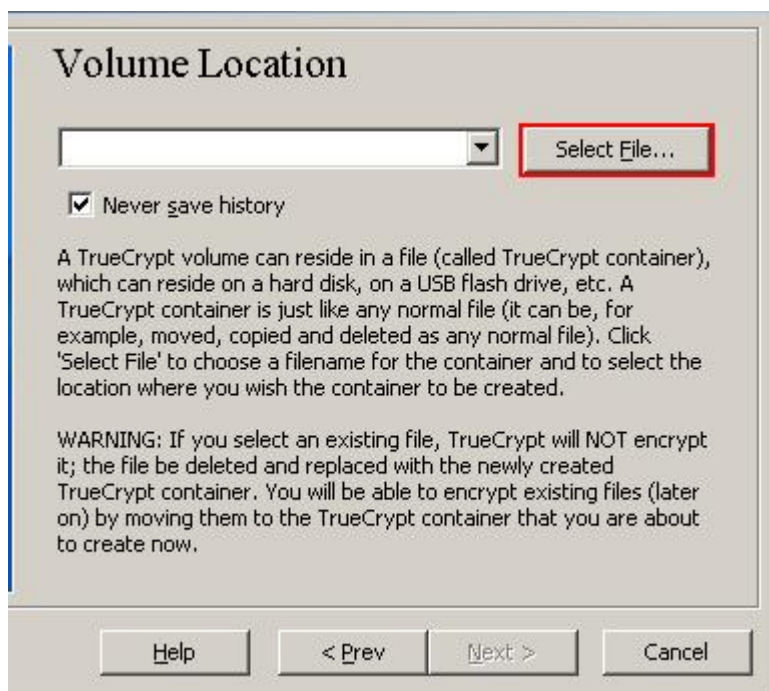
Step 4:



In this step you need to choose whether to create a standard or hidden TrueCrypt volume. In this tutorial, we will choose the former option and create a standard TrueCrypt volume.

As the option is selected by default, you can just click **Next**.

Step 5:

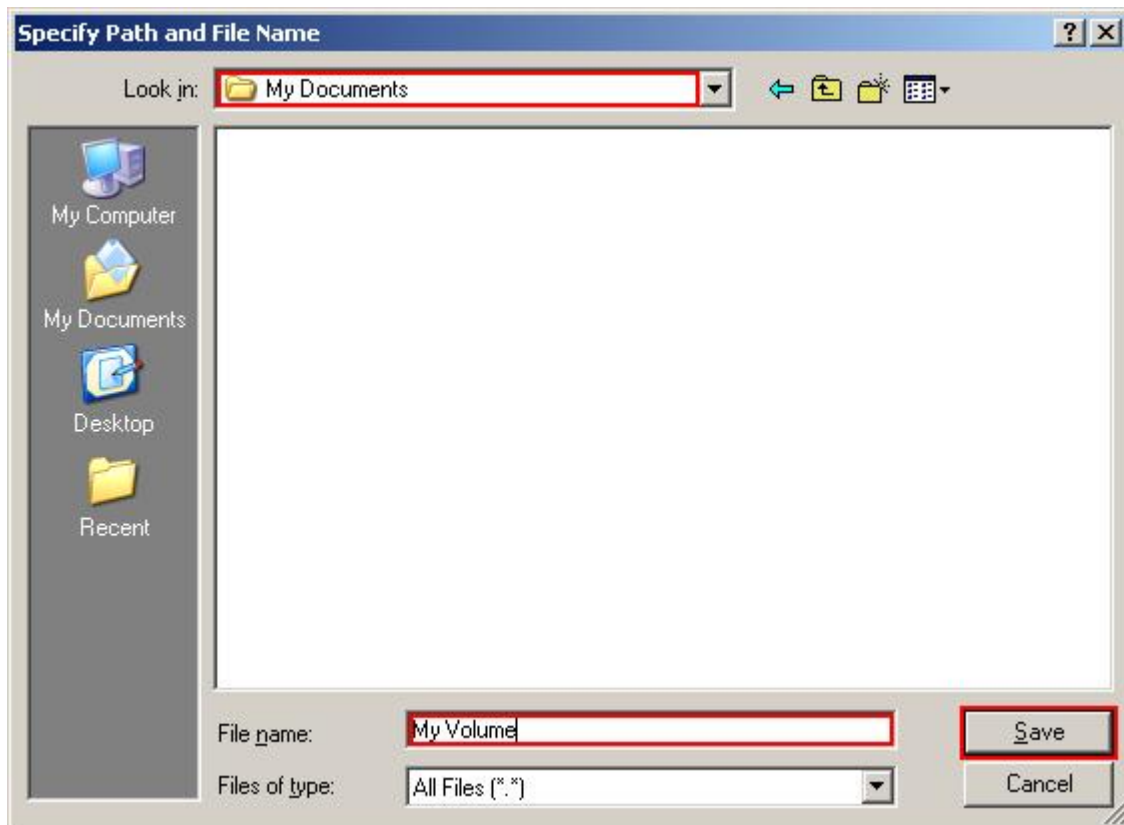


In this step you have to specify where you wish the TrueCrypt volume (file container) to be created. Note that a TrueCrypt container is just like any normal file. It can be moved, copied and deleted as any normal file. It also needs a filename, which you will choose in the next step.

Click **Select File**.

The standard Windows file selector should appear (while the window of the TrueCrypt Volume Creation Wizard remains open in the background).

Step 6:



Where it says *My Documents*, click on the dropdown menu and select your memory stick drive letter. The filename of the volume (container) will be *My Volume* (as can be seen in the screenshot above) for example. You may, of course, choose any other filename. Note that the file *My Volume* does not exist yet – TrueCrypt will create it.

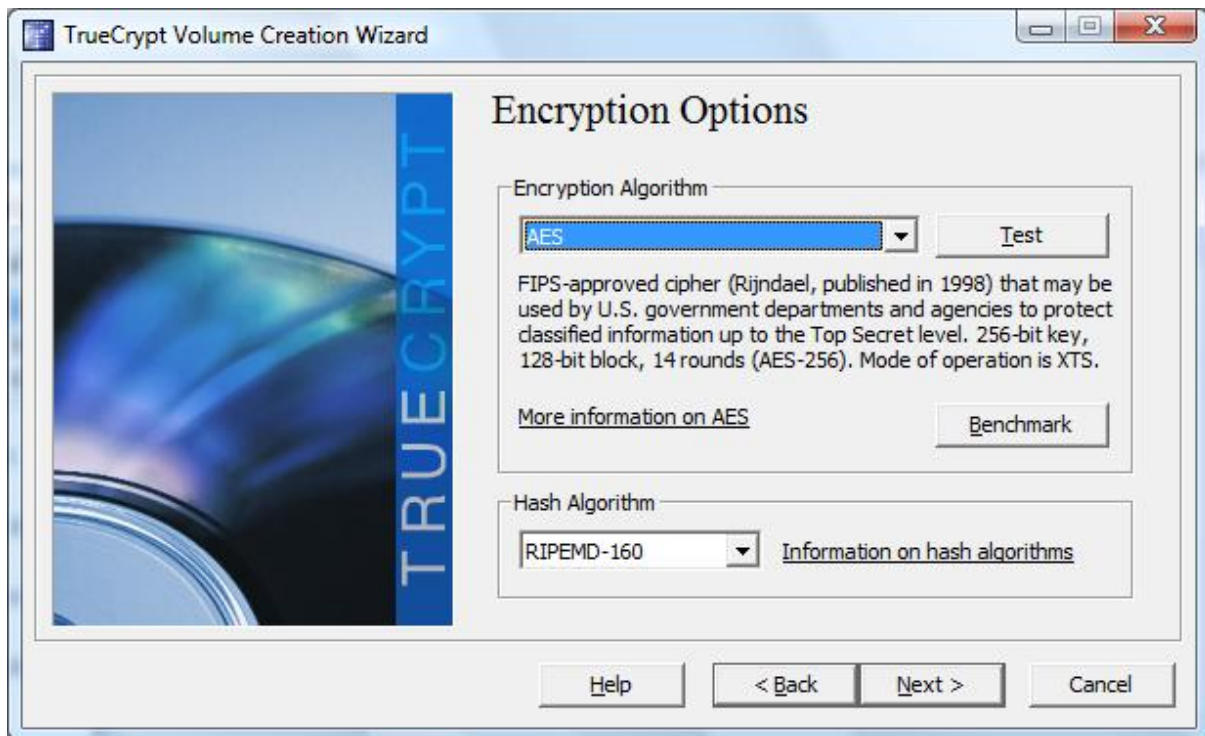
IMPORTANT: Note that TrueCrypt will *not* encrypt any existing files. If you select an existing file, it will be overwritten and replaced by the newly created volume (so the overwritten file will be *lost, not encrypted*). You will be able to encrypt existing files (later on) by moving them to the TrueCrypt volume that we are creating now.

Select the desired path (where you wish the container to be created) in the file selector. Type the desired container filename in the **File name** box. Click **Save**.

The file selector window should disappear.

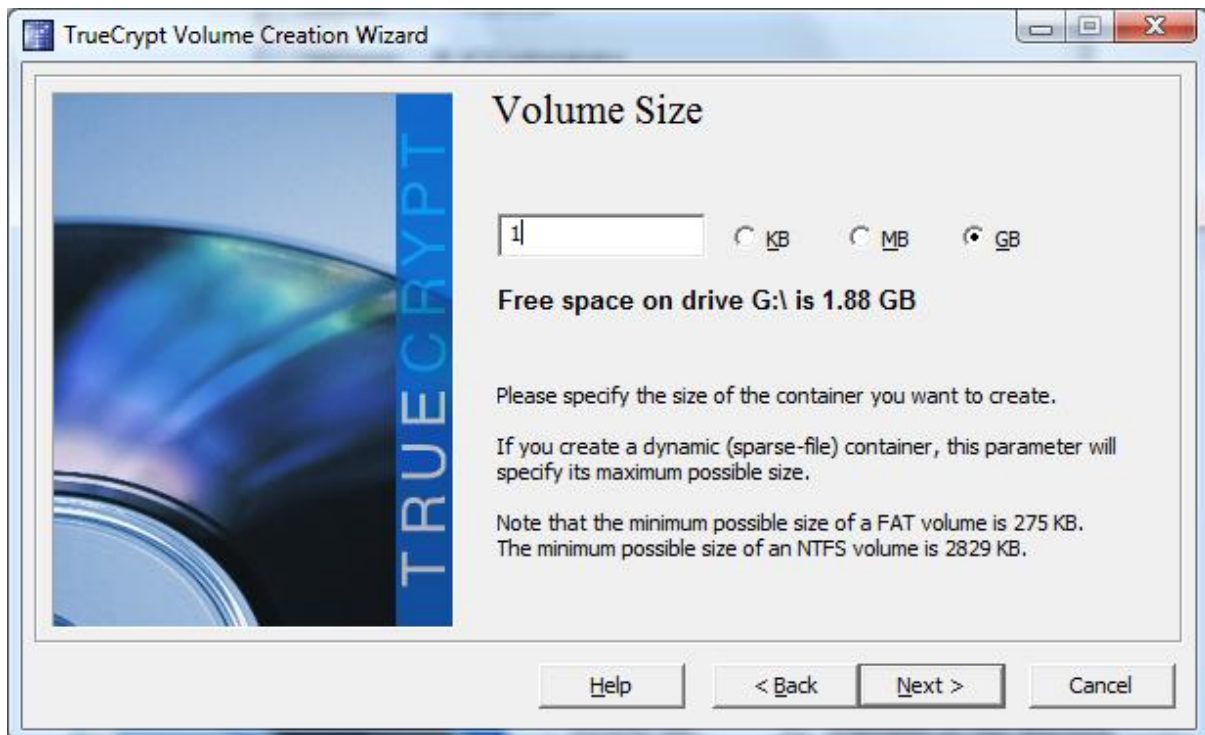
In the following steps, we will return to the TrueCrypt Volume Creation Wizard.

Step 7



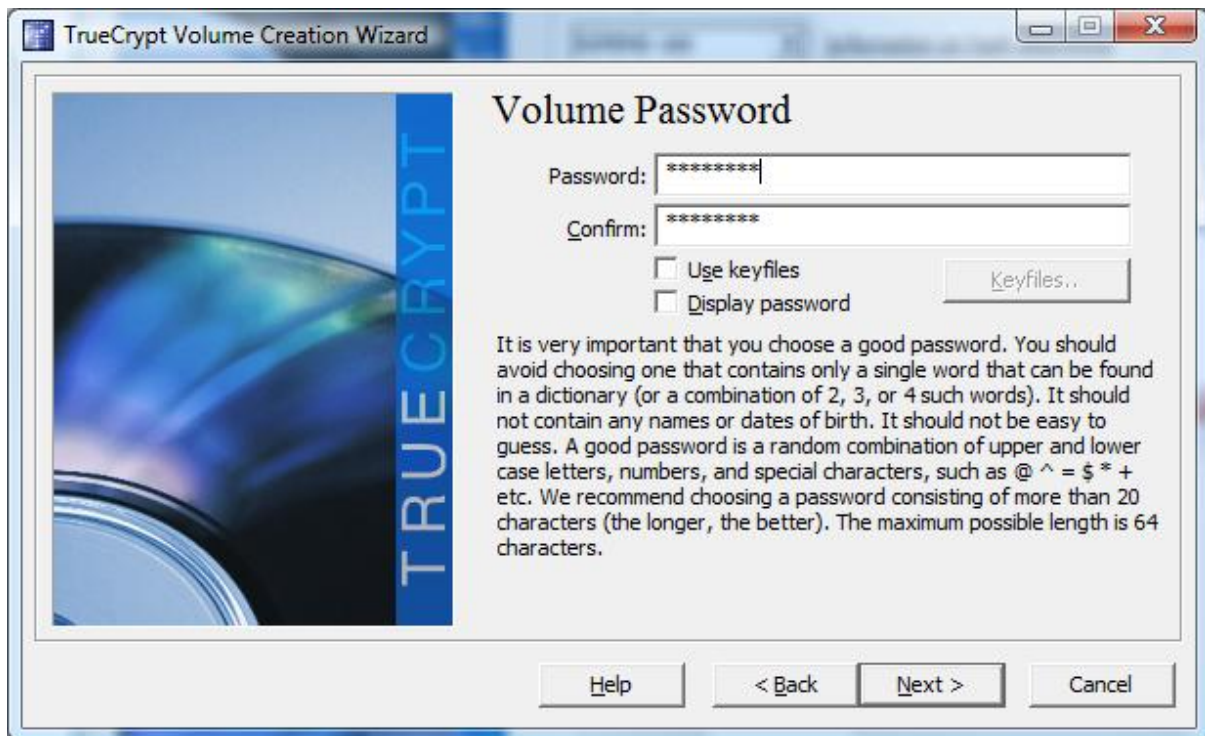
If you leave the settings on the Encryption Options as default

Step 8



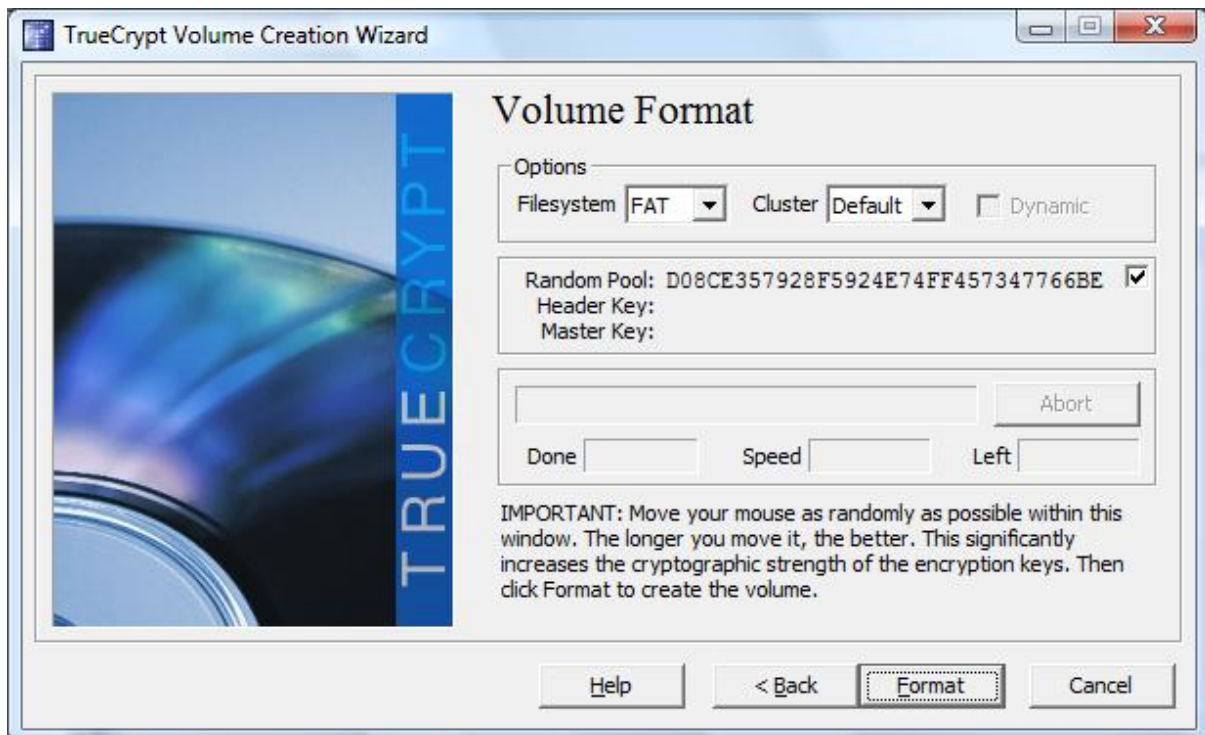
Here you can set how much of the Memory Stick you would like to be an encrypted area.

Step 9



Here you can set the password to your encrypted area.

Step 10



Leave the default settings in place and click Format. **Note: You will lose any data on the memory stick when you click on format so please make sure you have backed up any items you wish to keep.**