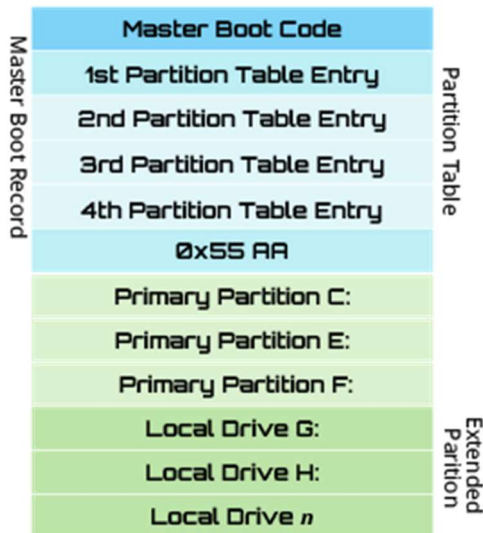


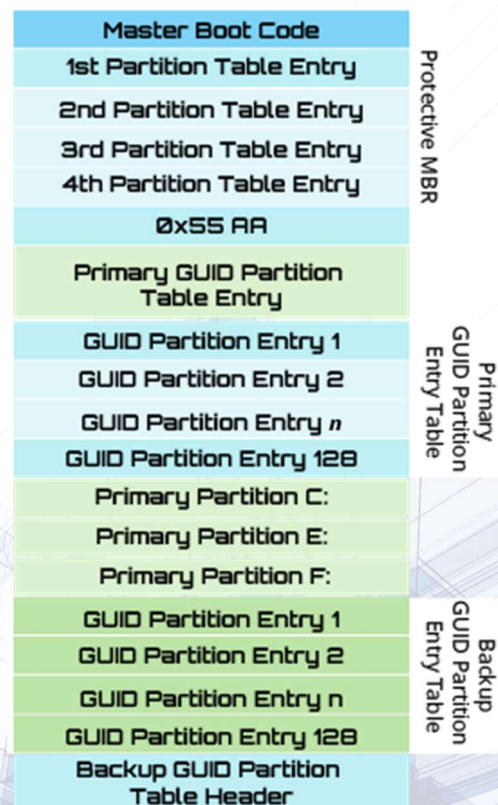


BOOT PARTITIONS

Basic MBR Disk



Basic GPT Disk



Boot Partitions

Partitioning a disk is the process of dividing a hard drive's storage space into smaller segments. There are two types of bootable partitions – Master Boot Record (MBR) Disks, and GUID Partition Table (GPT) Disks.

The two types of firmware used by modern computers are Basic Input/Output System (BIOS) and Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI). BIOS requires MBR Partition structure while UEFI requires GPT partition structure. UEFI also requires that the version of Windows must match the PC architecture, unless there is legacy BIOS support. For example, UEFI only supports booting a 32-bit version of Windows if the PC architecture is also 32-bit. Otherwise, 32-bit legacy BIOS mode is required to boot a 32-bit version of Windows on 64-bit PC architecture.

By default, all UEFI-enabled 64-bit systems use GPT partitioning. These 64-bit versions of Windows read, write, and also boot from GPT disks. They can read and write MBR disks, but cannot boot from MBR disks. Both 32-bit and 64-bit Windows operating systems support GPT disks for data on BIOS enabled systems.