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How to uninstall GRUB

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. How do I uninstall GRUB? I need to uninstall everything before sending this hard disk to someone including GRUB. All I need to keep is windows XP.

A. GNU GRUB ("GRUB" for short) is a boot loader package from the GNU Project. GRUB is the reference implementation of the Multiboot Specification, which allows a user to have several different operating systems on their computer at once, and to choose which one to run when the computer starts.

[1]

You can overwrite MBR with standard dd command. You can also use old good MS-DOS fdisk command to overwrite MBR.

Using MS-DOS/Windows 9x boot disk

In order to remove the GRUB bootloader from a Linux and Windows XP machine, boot with a Windows 9x startup disk or CD and execute the MS-DOS command:

```
fdisk /mbr
```

Using Windows XP boot disk

Boot computer using Windows XP (Windows 2000) setup disc / CD / DVD . Next, type the following commands:

```
# fixmbr
# exit
```

Using Linux

You can also use dd command from Linux itself (it removes partition table):

```
# dd if=/dev/null of=/dev/sdX bs=512 count=1
```

Just remove MBR, without the partition table (see comment below):

```
# dd if=/dev/null of=/dev/sdX bs=446 count=1
```

Replace /dev/hdX with your actual device name such as /dev/hda. Use fdisk -l command to find out device name:

```
# fdisk -l
```

Output:

```
Disk /dev/sda: 251.0 GB, 251000193024 bytes
255 heads, 63 sectors/track, 30515 cylinders
Units = cylinders of 16065 * 512 = 8225280 bytes

   Device Boot       Start         End      Blocks   Id  System
/dev/sda1   *           1          13      104391   83  Linux
/dev/sda2              14       30384   243955057+  83  Linux
/dev/sda3           30385       30515    1052257+   82  Linux swap
```

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