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Howto: Linux formatting floppy and zip disk and create filesystem

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Q. How do I format floppy and zip disk under Linux?

A. You need to fdformat command. It does a low level format on a floppy disk device is usually /dev/fd0 or /dev/fd1:

/dev/fd0 is your first floppy disk drive (A: under MS-DOS/ Windows XP). You must be the root to run following command.

Task: Low level format on a floppy disk

```
# fdformat /dev/fd0
```

Task: Create a Linux file system on a floppy disk

```
# /sbin/mkfs.ext3 /dev/fd0
```

Task: Create a MS DOS FAT file system on a floppy disk

```
# /sbin/mkfs.vfat /dev/fd0
```

Task: Create a partition on zip device

Zip device treated as SCSI device. So your first zip disk is /dev/sda. To remove or to create partition type the following command:

```
# fdisk /dev/sda
```

Type m for help and follow on screen instructions.

Task: Create or format a partition on zip device

/dev/sda1 is your first partition. To format in Linux file system type the following command:

```
# mkfs.ext /dev/sda1
```

OR for FAT file system use

```
# mkfs.vfat /dev/sda1
```

/etc/fstab file

The /etc/fstab allows you to configure the mount points.

```
# mkdir -p /mnt/zip
```

Open file and add entry:

```
# /etc/fstab
```

Append following text:

```
/dev/sda1 /mnt/zip ext3 noauto,rw,user,nosuid,sync
```

For DOS FAT file system add something as follows:

```
/dev/sda2 /mnt/zipd vfat noauto,rw,user,nosuid,sync,mode=0777
```

Save close the file.

Task: Mount zip device

To mount zip type following command:

```
$ mount /mnt/zip  
$ cd /mnt/zip  
$ ls
```

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