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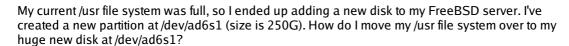
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FreeBSD Move /usr or /var File System To Another Hard Disk

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My current /usr file system was full, so I ended up adding a new disk to my FreeBSD server. I've
created a new partition at /dev/ad6s1 (size is 250G). How do I move my /usr file system over to my
huge new disk at /dev/ad6s1?   FreeBSD [1]

First, you need to partition and label the new disk with either sysinstall, or fdisk and disklabel. The procedure to add a
new hard disk under FreeBSD is discussed here [2].

Once new disk added, create a temporary mount point to mount your /dev/ad6s1, enter:

```
# mkdir /newuser
```

Reboot and drop system to a signal user mode to migrate to a new disk:

```
# reboot
```

At boot prompt type:

```
# boot -s
```

Mount all file systems:

```
# mount -a -t ufs
```

Mount new /newuser file system:

```
# mount /dev/ad6s1 /newuser
```

Copy old /usr to /newuser:

```
# cd /newuser
# dump 0af - /usr | restore rf -
```

Sample outputs:

[3]

Fig.01: FreeBSD Copy /usr To New Disk Using dump Command

Open /etc/fstab, enter:

```
# vi /etc/fstab
```

Modify /usr entry to point to a new location:

```
/dev/ad6s1      /usr    ufs   rw   2   2
```

Save and close the file. Reboot the server:

```
# reboot
```

Make sure everything is working fine after reboot:

```
# df -H
# tail -f /var/log/messages
```

Recommend readings:

- man pages dump, fstab, mount, restore

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URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/freebsd/**
[2] FreeBSD is discussed here: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/freebsd-adding-second-hard-disk-howto/**
[3] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/freebsd-move-usr-filesystem-to-new-disk/freebsd_format-hard-disk/**