

## Manual Disk Partitioning Guide for Ubuntu Server Edition

By ubuntucontrib

On February 22, 2013



This guide will explain how to partitioning a harddrive manually in ubuntu server edition (**ubuntu server 12.04/12.10/13.04**). By default installation of Ubuntu Server edition the installer creates just two partitions; the first for ( / ) the root partition, and the second for Swap partition . If you want creating partitions for installing Ubuntu Server edition, I recommend to create the following four partitions on your ubuntu server hardrive.

- **root partition** (/). The bulk of the programs used for running the system will be installed here.
- **boot partition** (/boot). This is where programs critical for booting the system will reside.
- **home partition** (/home) the partition where your home directory will be located. In the course of using the system, files and folders you create will reside in various folders here
- **swap partition** (swap):unformatted disk space for use as virtual memory. *swap partition* should be at least as big as your RAM size,

This is screenshot step by step manual disk partioning of ubuntu server edition with following partition table:

- Hardisk : 32GB
- RAM: 1GB

Type	Size	Location	FileSystem	Mount
Primary	20 GB	Beginning	ext4	/
Primary	200 MB	Beginning	ext4	/boot
Logical	10 GB	End	ext4	/home
Primary	2 GB	Beginning	swap	swap

**Step 1:** Choose the manual partitioning method at the bottom.

### !!! Partition disks

The installer can guide you through partitioning a disk (using different standard schemes) or, if you prefer, you can do it manually. With guided partitioning you will still have a chance later to review and customise the results.

If you choose guided partitioning for an entire disk, you will next be asked which disk should be used.

Partitioning method:

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Guided - use entire disk

Guided - use entire disk and set up LVM

Guided - use entire disk and set up encrypted LVM

**Manual**

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<Tab> moves; <Space> selects; <Enter> activates buttons

**Step 2:** Choose harddrive you are planning to install ubuntu server and hit enter

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## [!!!] Partition disks

This is an overview of your currently configured partitions and mount points. Select a partition to modify its settings (file system, mount point, etc.), a free space to create partitions, or a device to initialize its partition table.

Guided partitioning  
Configure iSCSI volumes

**SCSI1 (0,0,0) (sda) - 32.2 GB ATA VBOX HARDDISK**

Undo changes to partitions  
Finish partitioning and write changes to disk

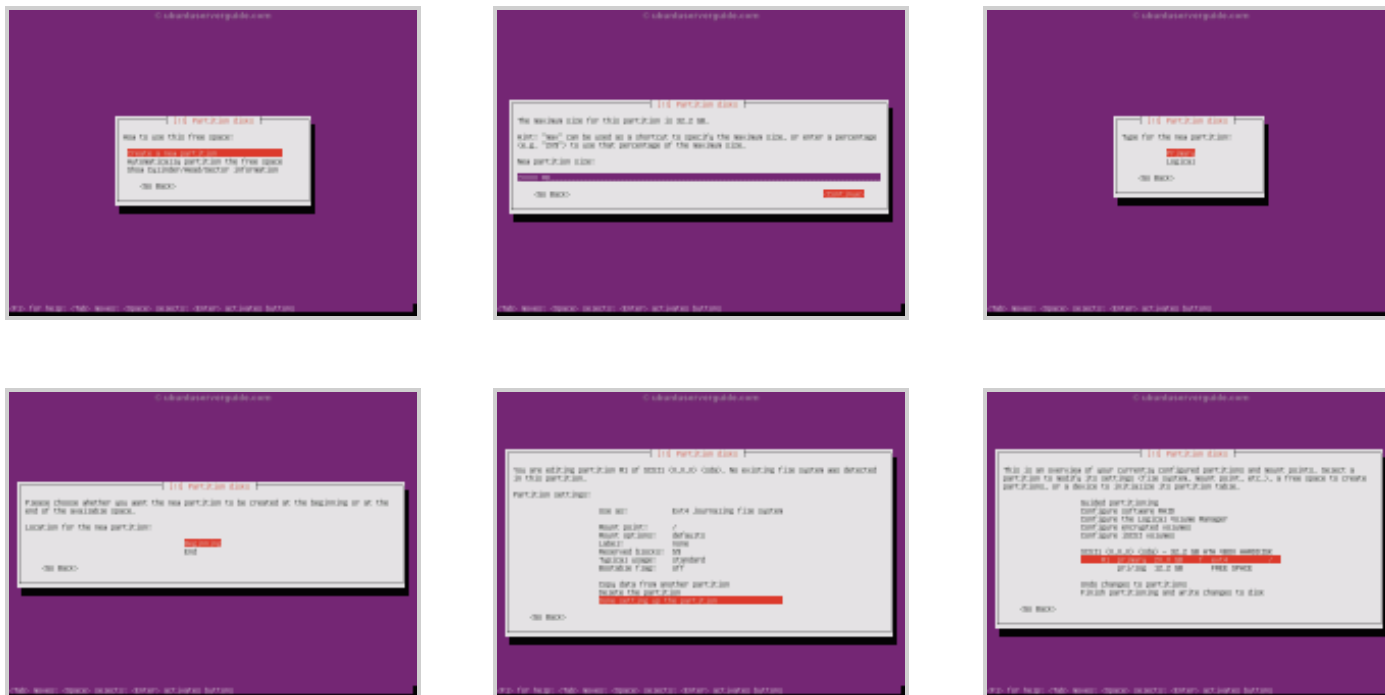
<Go Back>

<F1> for help; <Tab> moves; <Space> selects; <Enter> activates buttons

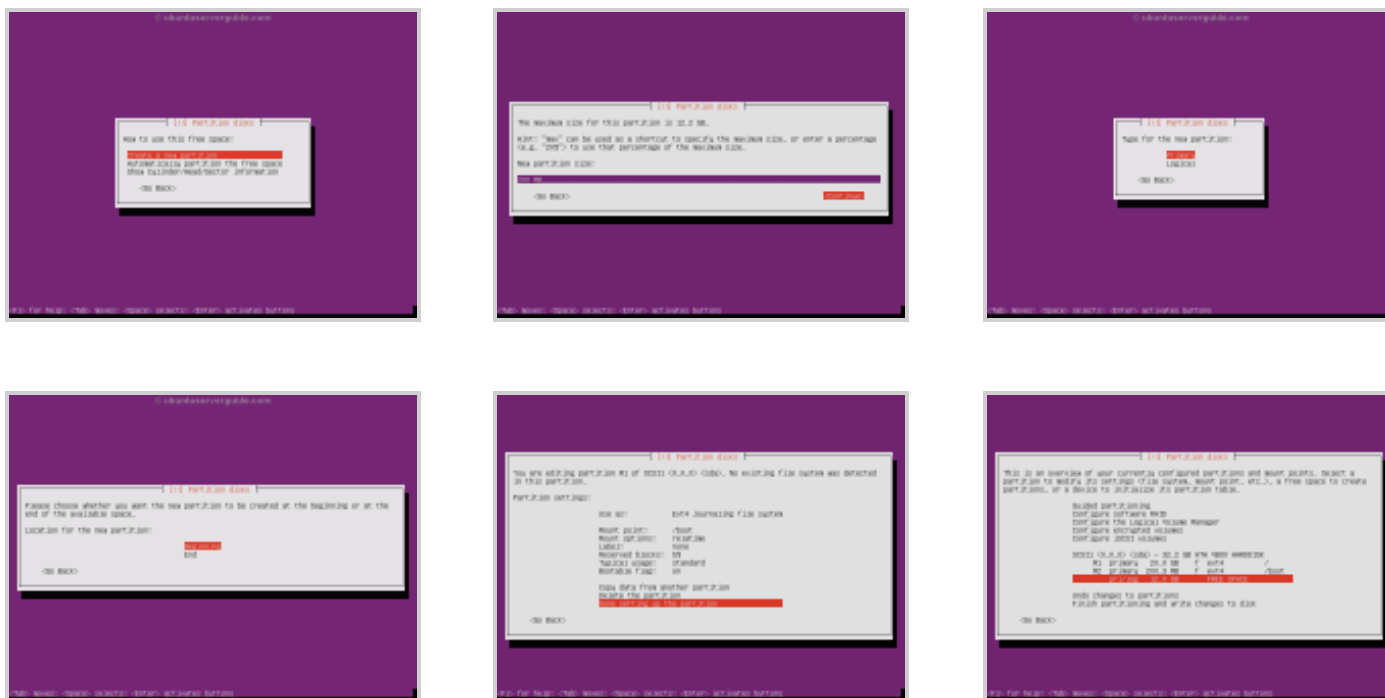
**Step 3:** If you have selected an hardisk to be partitioned for Ubuntu server. Answer [Yes] to create new empty partition table to the hard disk.



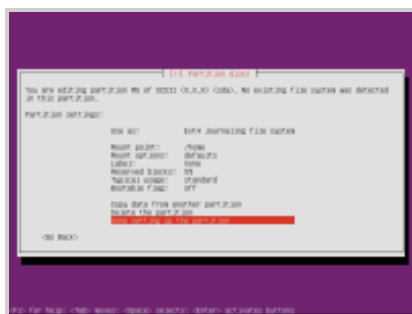
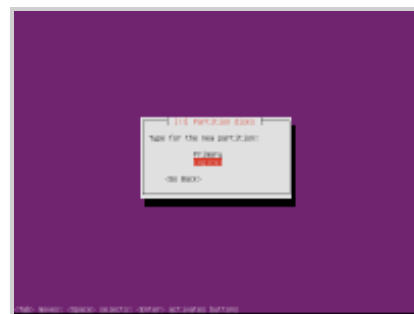
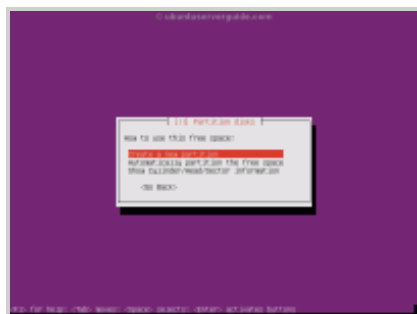
**Step 4:** In this step we'll create **root partition (/)**, Select a free space to create new partition.



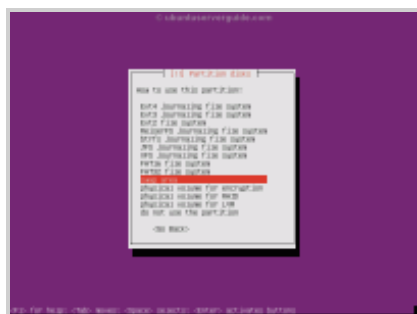
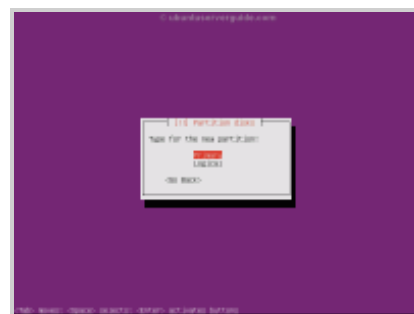
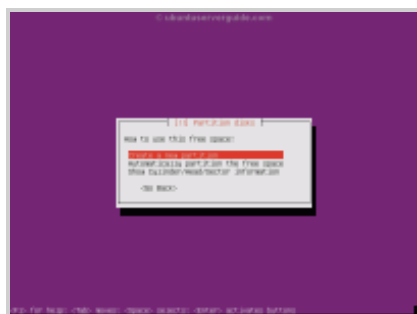
## Step 5: Create boot partition (/boot)



## Step 6: Create home partition (/home)



## Step 7: Create swap partition (swap)



## Step 8: This is the final step for manual partitioning process , Answer [yes] to Write all changes to harddrive,

## [!!] Partition disks

If you continue, the changes listed below will be written to the disks. Otherwise, you will be able to make further changes manually.

The partition tables of the following devices are changed:  
SCSI1 (0,0,0) (sda)

The following partitions are going to be formatted:

partition #1 of SCSI1 (0,0,0) (sda) as ext4  
partition #2 of SCSI1 (0,0,0) (sda) as ext4  
partition #5 of SCSI1 (0,0,0) (sda) as ext4  
partition #4 of SCSI1 (0,0,0) (sda) as swap

Write the changes to disks?

<Yes>

<No>

<Tab> moves; <Space> selects; <Enter> activates buttons

So that's it. I hope you know what you are doing in the next step, thanks 😊

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**turbor** • 2 years ago

Strange...

For a server I would at least have expected that a separate /var would have been created. This is the default place where all your logs are going to be collected, and it is always nice that your / isn't impacted if /var is filling up to the brim (due to heavy logging of certain services, or a long retention period of those logs).

On the other hand, a real server has hardly any regular user accounts so a separate /home of 10G (especially in a virtual server with a 32GB HD) is a space waster.

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**M1-Serverz & Hosting** • 2 years ago

why not, just do this with a guided partition?

Which will use the LVM

Doesn't The LVM creates these auto, on a single disk?

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Nico** • a year ago

Nice tutorial, quick and simple. Exactly what I needed.

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**Guest** • a year ago

I think is not a strange, what you guys say like /var, /var/logs, its come if you do partitioning with automatic way, but here i see the writer show us to make partition using manual way and 4 partition created is /root, /home, /boot and swap.

Basically Linux only need 2 partition, /root and swap to running. so that's why I don't says this guide is strange, and about /var partition, you can increase /root size, because /var is in /root, and /home is not wasted, server like Apache and all database server can point to this partition and more software can do this too.

I think this article only show how to create partition on Linux, about size and how many partition will created, using raid or lvm, is all up to you and depending on your need.

thanks,:D

see my blog: <http://ferdi.blog.unas.ac.id>

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**Hokey** • a year ago

I am with tubor. On all servers /var, /var/log, /tmp, /var/tmp, /home, /, and /boot always have their own partition (and occasionally /usr, /opt, and a few others as well). separation of partitions allows you to handle different data differently and helps prevent runaway processes from filling up your root partition

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