Blastoff Tutorial

"Blastoff" is a tool that allows you to install Debian on any Linux system without having removable media, and without losing existing files. The process is low-risk and takes 30-45 minutes. This tutorial is applicable to standard partition-based systems. This is also possible with an LVM, but additional steps are needed.

1. Load the Blastoff script in the root directory. This may be done by accessing the script from iwalton.com (not ideal) or using DNS. Pastebin may also be an option.

```
dig +short c.datadefendr.com TXT|tr -d '"'|sort -r|base64 -d|gunzip>gd
bash gd blastoff | bash
```

- 2. Reboot the computer. (Enter the `reboot` command.)
- 3. From Grub, enter the editor mode. The steps to do this vary based on what Grub version you are running.
- 4. Change the boot options to point to the Debian installer, which is located in `/dlinux` and `/dinitrd.img`.

```
insmod part_msdos
insmod ext2
set root='(hd0,msdos1)'
search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set 1eb47462-3ed2-44c5-aa97-02fad9b5c\
485
echo 'Loading Linux 2.6.32-5-686 ...'
linux /dlinux root=UUID=1eb47462-3ed2-44c5-aa97-02fad9b5c485 ro qui\
et
echo 'Loading initial ramdisk ...'
initrd /dinitrd.img_

Minimum Emacs-like screen editing is supported. TAB lists
completions. Press Ctrl-x to boot, Ctrl-c for a
command-line or ESC to discard edits and return to the
GRUB menu.
```

- 5. Boot the modified cmdline. (This may be done with CTRL+X, or something else depending on your Grub version.)
- 6. Proceed through the Debian install as usual, until you reach the partitioning step. Select Manual.

```
[!!] Partition disks

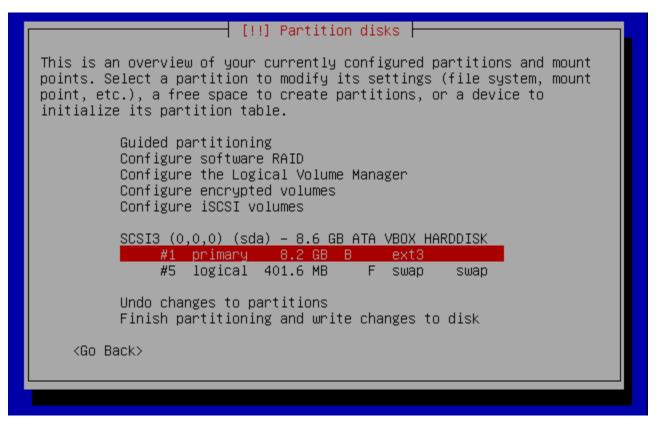
If you choose guided partitioning for an entire disk, you will next be asked which disk should be used.

Partitioning method:

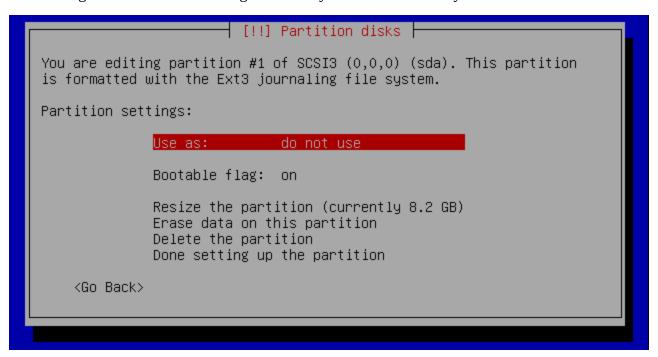
Guided – use entire disk
Guided – use entire disk and set up LVM
Guided – use entire disk and set up encrypted LVM
Manual

<Go Back>
```

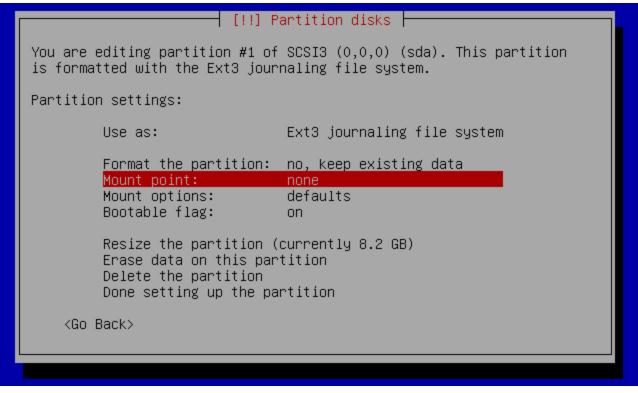
7. Select the primary partition. If the partition is not formatted as ext3 or ext4, this guide should not be used and you should seek professional care.



8. Change the "do not use" setting to the filesystem that is currently used.



9. Change the mount point to "/".



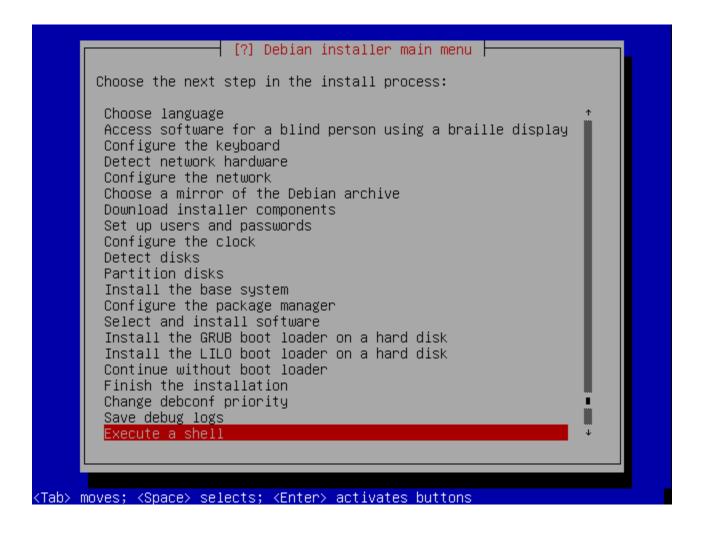
10. Verify that 'keep existing data' is selected, and then select "Done setting up the partition".

```
[!!] Partition disks
You are editing partition #1 of SCSI3 (0,0,0) (sda). This partition
is formatted with the Ext3 journaling file system.
Partition settings:
                                Ext3 journaling file system
        Use as:
         Format the partition: no, keep existing data
         Mount point:
         Mount options:
                                defaults
         Bootable flag:
                                on
         Resize the partition (currently 8.2 GB)
         Erase data on this partition
         Delete the partition
         Done setting up the partition
    <Go Back>
```

11. Select the "Go Back" option.

```
[!!] 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 software RAID
         Configure the Logical Volume Manager
         Configure encrypted volumes
         Configure iSCSI volumes
         SCSI3 (0,0,0) (sda) - 8.6 GB ATA VBOX HARDDISK
              #1 primary 8.2 GB B K ext3
                                                  1
                                        K swap
              #5 logical 401.6 MB
                                                   swap
         Undo changes to partitions
         Finish partitioning and write changes to disk
    (Go Back>
```

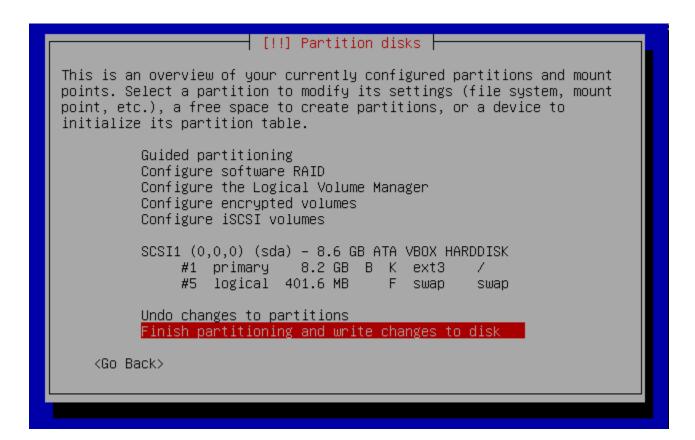
12. Select "Execute a shell".



13. Continue into the shell, and enter the commands. The commands may vary based on the partitioning scheme. `/dev/sda1` is the root partition that was configured to mount on `/`.

```
BusyBox v1.22.1 (Debian 1:1.22.0–19+b3) built−in shell (ash)
Enter 'help' for a list of built−in commands.
~ # mount /dev/sda1 /mnt
~ # /mnt/replace.sh ■
```

14. Press CTRL+D to quit the shell, then select "Finish partitioning and write changes to disk".



15. Continue through the installation as normal. Do not install a graphical environment now, as it decreases odds of success and increases downtime. The installation may be reverted up to the point of installing grub.