DiskPart Commands

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DiskPart

These commands are used to troubleshoot and perform tasks on a computer's disk, file system, and drives.

active
Shifts focus to currently selected disk

> `active`
> Example: You have selected the drive in slot 0. The command *active* prepares the selected drive for other actions like formatting or partitioning.

assign
Assigns a drive letter or mount point to the volume with focus

> `assign [{letter=d|mount=path}]`
>
> > `letter=d`
> > Specifies the drive letter that you intend to assign to the volume.
> >
> > `mount=path`
> > Specifies the mount point path that you intend to assign to the volume.
>
> Example: You have created a new partition and now you need to assign it a letter or mount path.

attributes
Displays, sets, or clears the attributes of a disk or volume

> `attributes volume [{set | clear}] [{hidden | readonly | nodefaultdriveletter | shadowcopy}]`

```
volume
```
Displays the attributes of the selected volume.

```
set
```
Sets the specified attribute (hidden, read-only, nodefaultdriveletter, or shadowcopy volume) on the selected volume.

```
clear
```
Clears the specified attribute (hidden, read-only, nodefaultdriveletter, or shadowcopy volume) from the selected volume.

```
hidden
```
Specifies that the volume is hidden.

```
readonly
```
Specifies that the volume is read-only.

```
nodefaultdriveletter
```
Specifies that the volume does not receive a drive letter by default.

```
shadowcopy
```
Specifies that the volume is a shadow copy volume.

Example: You need to make sure data is not replaced during a forensic audit so you give a drive the attribute readonly

clean

Removes any and all partition or volume formatting from the disk with focus

```
clean
```

Example: You want to prepare an old drive to be used for another purpose. You clean the selected disk to prepare it for a new partition.

create

Creates a partition on a disk, or a volume on one or more disks

```
create partition primary create partition primary [size=n]
[offset=n]
```

```
size=n
```
Specifies the size of the partition in megabytes (MB). If no size is given,
the partition continues until there is no more unallocated space in the
current region.

```
offset=n
```
Specifies the byte offset at which to create the partition. If no offset is
given, the partition starts at the beginning of the first free space on the
disk.

Example: You need to create a new partition on the disk for a dual boot option.
You create a new primary partition to enable the install.

delete
Deletes a partition or a volume.

```
delete partition
```

Example: You need to remove a partition from the disk list. You mark the
partition you want to delete as active and use the delete partition command.

detail
Displays, sets, or clears the attributes of a disk or volume.

```
detail disk
```

Example: You need to see what format the volumes on the selected disk are.

exit
Exits the diskpart command terminal.

```
exit
```

Example: You are done using DiskPart and want to exit the terminal.

extend

Extends the volume or partition with focus, along with its file system, into free (unallocated) space on a disk.

```
extend [size=n] [disk=n]
```

Example: You need more space in the current volume and there is still available space on the disk.

filesystems

Displays information about the current file system of the volume with focus and lists the file systems that are supported for formatting the volume.

```
filesystems
```

Example: You need to create a new partition on the disk for a dual boot option. You create a new primary partition to enable the install.

format

Assigns a drive letter or mount point to the volume with focus.

```
format [{[FS=<FS>] [LABEL=<"label">] [UNIT=<N>] [QUICK]
[COMPRESS]
```

> FS=<FS>
> Specifies the type of file system. If no file system is given, the default file system displayed by the FILESYSTEMS command is used.
>
> LABEL=<"label">
> Specifies the volume label.
>
> UNIT=<N>
> Overrides the default allocation unit size. Default settings are strongly recommended for general use. The default allocation unit size for a particular file system is displayed by the FILESYSTEMS command.
>
> QUICK

Performs a quick format.

```
COMPRESS
```
NTFS only: Files created on the new volume will be compressed by default.

Example: You have created a new partition and now you need to assign it a letter or mount path.

inactive

Marks the system partition or boot partition with focus as inactive on basic master boot record (MBR) disks.

```
inactive
```

Example: You need to reinstall an operating system so you mark the disk as inactive to avoid conflicts during reboot sequences.

list

Displays a list of disks, of partitions in a disk, of volumes in a disk.

```
list disk
```

Example: You want to see a list of disks recognized by the system.

offline

Takes an online disk or volume to the offline state.

```
offline
```

Example: Your system has multiple disks and you want to make one unavailable for use.

online

Takes an online disk or volume to the offline state.

```
online
```

Example: You need to bring an offline disk back online.

`remove`

Removes a drive letter or mount point from a volume.

remove [{letter=d|mount=path]}]

> `letter=d`
> Specifies the drive letter to remove.
>
> `mount=path`
> Specifies the mount point path to remove.

Example: You need to change the drive letter associated with a removable drive.

`repair`

Repairs the RAID-5 volume with focus by replacing the failed disk region with the specified disk.

`repair disk=n`

> `n`
> Specifies the dynamic disk that replaces the failed RAID-5 member. The specified disk must have free space equal to or larger than the total size of the failed RAID-5 member.

Example: You have a failure in your Raid-5 volume and need to replace the corrupted data with healthy data.

`rescan`

Locates new disks that might have been added to the computer.

`rescan`

Example: You need to check for a disk you just connected but isn't showing under list disk.

select

Shifts the focus to a disk, partition, or volume.

select disk=[n]

> n
> Specifies the disk number of the disk to receive focus.

> Example: You need to create a partition so you select the disk you intend to partition.

shrink

Reduces the size of the volume with focus by the specified amount. Makes free disk space available from unused space at the end of the volume.

```
shrink [DESIRED=<N>] [MINIMUM=<N>]
```

> DESIRED=<N>
> Specifies the desired amount of space in megabytes (MB) to reduce the size of the volume by. If a desired amount is not specified, the volume will be reduced by the maximum amount of free space available on the volume.

> MINIMUM=<N>
> Specifies the minimum amount of space in MB to reduce the size of the volume by.

> Example: You need to create a new partition but the remaining space does not meet your minimum requirements.