8.1 MBR Disk Partitions

As you study this section, answer the following questions:

- Why is it important to plan disk partitioning before installing Linux?
- What is the difference between a primary partition and an extended partition?
- Which utility would you use to manage disk partitions?
- Linux allows a maximum of only four primary partitions on a single hard disk drive. What can you do to get around this limitation?
- What does the /dev/sda3 device file name identify?
- Which directory stores device file names?

In this section, you will learn to:

- Use **fdisk** to view the partition information on the system.

Key terms for this section include the following:

Term	Definition
Partition	A region on a hard disk that can be managed by an operating system.
Primary partition	A MBR partition that contains only one file system.
Extended partition	An optional partition that can contain multiple logical partitions, each with their own file system.
Logical partition	A partition contained in an extended partition.
Device file	An interface for a device driver that appears in the Linux file system under the /dev directory.

This section helps you prepare for the following certification exam objectives:

Exam	Objective

CompTIA Linux+	1.4 Manage storage in a Linux environment.
	• Basic partitions
	  ◦ MBR
	• Tools
	  ◦ Commands
	  ▪ fdisk
	• Location
	  ◦ /dev/

	4.1 Given a scenario, analyze system properties and remediate accordingly.
	• Storage monitoring and configuration
	  ○ IO scheduling
	  ▪ partprobe

TestOut Linux Pro	2.1 Manage storage devices • Create and manage disk partitions