**Re-read The Partition Table Without Rebooting Linux System**

by Vivek Gite on May 8, 2006 *last updated* July 17, 2016

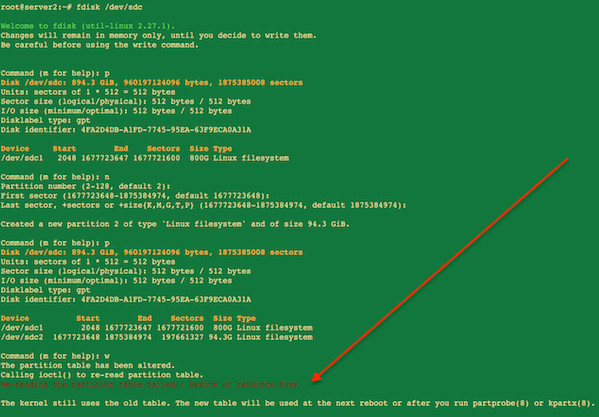
in [File system](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/category/file-system), [Linux](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/category/linux), [RedHat/Fedora Linux](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/category/redhatfedora-linux), [Sys admin](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/category/sys-admin), [Tips](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/category/tips), [Troubleshooting](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/category/troubleshooting), [Ubuntu Linux](http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/category/ubuntu-linux)

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IIf you are using hot swappable hard disk and created a new partition using the fdisk, then you need to reboot Linux based system to get partition recognized. Without reboot, you will NOT be able to create a filesystem on your newly created or modified partitions with the mke2fs command.  
The kernel still uses the old table. The new table will be utilized at the next reboot or after you run partprobe or kpartx command. Both of these programs informs the operating system kernel of partition table changes, by requesting that the operating system re-read the partition table.  
  
You will seen an error that read as follows:

**Re-reading the partition table failed.: Device or resource busy**

A sample session:



fdisk command in action

After the fdisk command session (which makes changes to partition table) just type the following command:  
# partprobe  
OR  
# partprobe /dev/sdXpartprobepartprobe  
Replace /dev/sdX or /dev/hdX with actual device name. Now you will able to create filesystem on new partition with the [mke2fs command](http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-format-create-linux-filesystem/).

**Inform the OS of partition table changes**

The partprobe command is part of GNU parted software. parted is a disk partitioning and partition resizing program. It allows you to create, destroy, resize, move and copy ext2, ext3, linux-swap, FAT, FAT32, and reiserfs partitions. It can create, resize and move Macintosh HFS partitions, as well as detect jfs, ntfs, ufs, and xfs partitions. It is useful for creating space for new operating systems, reorganising disk usage, and copying data to new hard disks.