

How to format the redhat E5 Linux swappable hard drive.

1. The drive location is `/dev/sdb1`.
 - a. `sdb1` will depend on the USB port and if other usb devices are installed etc.

WARNING DO NOT USE `sda,sda1` or `sda2`!!!!

- b. When in doubt mount the drive and type : `dmesg | tail`
2. Open a command window in root
3. Type "`fdisk /dev/sdb1`" (type "`cntrl-c`" at any time to abort)
 - a. Enter "`p`" at the prompt to list any old partitions
 - i. **IF ANY partition has the 'boot' column starred then exit FDISK immediately!**
 - b. Enter "`d`" to delete any old partitions
 - i. **IF ANY partition has the 'boot' column starred then exit FDISK immediately!**
 - ii. Enter 1 to delete the first partition and then repeat for all other partitions
 - c. Enter "`p`" to check if all partitions are deleted
 - d. Enter "`n`" to create a new partition
 - i. Enter "`p`" for primary
 - ii. Enter 1 for just one new partition
 - iii. Return "`Enter`" for default cylinders
 - e. When complete enter "`p`" to check partition
 - i. If necessary enter "`t`" for the filesystem and the "`83`" for the default linux "`ext2`"
 - ii. More filesystems can be seen by entering "`L`"
 - f. Type a "`w`" to write the partition
4. Type "`mkfs -V -t ext2 /dev/sdb1`" (makes the filesystem/format)
 - a. Wait until format is complete
5. Type "`fsck -f -y /dev/sdb1`" (check the drive)
6. Type "`chmod 777 /dev/sdb1`" to set the permissions.
7. Change label type "`e2label /dev/sdb1 my_label`"
8. Unplug (turn off) the drive and then reconnect.
 - a. Wait until drive mounts
 - b. You may need to reboot
9. Disk will mount as `/media/my_label`