

RE: Dynamically increase/reduce hardware raid partition?

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To: "Debian User" <debian-user@lists.debian.org>

>
> *On Wed, 14 Apr 2004, Michael Bellears wrote:*
>
> > *I have just installed Debian 3 on a Smart Array 6400 (4*
> *disks (146.8G*
> > *each) Raid 5) – This gives me a data partition of 409G.*
>
> *that's pretty bad ... i'd have expected somewhere around 3x*
> *146gb of usable space*

That is my "data" partition – I have other partitions taking up the remaining space.

>
> *when you formatted the disks... did you use –m 1 or some*
> *other non–default "reserved space" on these giant disks*

No – Standard install with cfdisk (So whatever it uses)

>
> > *If I add an additional 146.8G drive, and update the*
> *array(Raid BIOS),*
>
> *if you changed the "partition" (raid bios)... you lost all data*
> *– partitions are not dynamically resizable to add new disks*
> *to the array*

I added the additional HD to the dynamic array (HP top tools) – Giving a total of ~520G (As reported in HP Tool)

>
> > *the changes are not reflected when in Debian (i.e. It still*
> *only sees*
> > *a 409G partition, not ~520G)*
> >

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- > > *Is there anyway around this? Or everytime we add an*
- > *additional drive,*
- > > *we must create a new array, and add it to fstab?*
- >
- > *you need to use a "resizable" filesystem type (reiserfs or*
- > *jfs or xfs)*
- > *– if forgot which fs are dynamically resizable to allow the*
- > *inclusion of the new disk into its existing partitions*
- > *(allows you to make 256MB / to be 512MB / or*
- > *something like it)*

I am running ReiserFS – Is there anything I need to do once I have rebooted with the additional drive to have it "see" the additional space?

- >
- > *growing an existing raid array on the fly is a "bad thing"*
- > *and i hope you have very good backups to restore the entire array*

The server has a capacity of 16 drives – We currently only have 5(Couldn't talk management into purchasing 16x\$1000 drives straight up!) – I wanted to be able to "grow" the size of the array when demand dicates(i.e. once we have used ~450G, I would like to add an extra two 146.8 G drives to increase our data partition's size)..

Regards,
MB