

Re: Problem booting RAID1/mdadm system when one disk is unplugged

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Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2006-09/msg00117.html>

- *From:* Justin Piszcz <jpiszcz@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 1 Sep 2006 16:58:54 -0400 (EDT)
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On Fri, 1 Sep 2006, James Brown wrote:

All,

I have already posted this question to gmane.linux.raid, but would really appreciate some help from a Debian perspective please...

My System has 2x120GB IDE disks with the an up-to-date Sarge install, running kernel 2.6.8-3 and configured for mirroring.

When I tested booting my system, I found:

- a) A kernel panic unless both disks are plugged in.
- b) One disk removes from the array each reboot.

The relevant logs are on this thread:

<http://article.gmane.org/gmane.linux.raid/13033/match=newbie+kernel+panic+raid1>

I was advised this was a problem with my `initrd` because it didn't contain a `mdadm.conf` file and presumably that I should

Unfortunately, some friends of mine do not agree that my `initrd` is the problem because they point out that I can still boot when two disks are present. What do people here think?

Thanks in advance

James.

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- 1) You do not need an initrd at all.
- 2) I would make sure you are booting from the /dev/md* partition.
- 3) You must have a /boot on a /dev/md partition.
- 4) You need LILO installed with the special raid option in the config.
- 5) I have done this and tested by pulling each HDD out and it working successfully with Debian + 2x74GB raptors.

Justin.

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