

# Problem booting into that other OS using grub

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Fedora/2004-05/8180.html>

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To: fedora-list@redhat.com

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Hi,

Some time ago (around march) I had a hardware problem (basically me not being careful enough during component replacement) that corrupted data on all my hard drives.

As a result I reinstalled from scratch my linux system. Today I decided to reinstall the other OS that lives on an old 12 GiB disk (comes handy every few months to check a oo.o pdf can be read by acrobat reader). To simplify things I went in the bios, put the drive in lba mode, told the bios to boot from it, scratched all existing partitions and let the OS create a new partition spanning all the drive. So far so good.

After loosing massive amounts of time getting everything to a current patchlevel I told the bios to resume booting on the "SCSI" card (the additional ide card on which the linux raid is). It booted in grub all right, and I selected other OS in the menu (I had restored my pre-crash grub.conf by then). Black screen, no activity.

The grub entry is a simple :

```
title Other
  map (hd2) (hd0)
  rootnoverify (hd2,0)
  chainloader +1
```

(and I think the map part is largely irrelevant since the latest version of the other OS enumerates disks like linux and grub now)

I've tried to change the grub entry a little without getting anything but a hang (sometimes the grub commands stays displayed, sometimes the screen is blank). I've tried with FC1 and FC2 versions of grub. I'm stuck.

So I'm suspecting there is a partitionning problem now.

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Fdisk says :

The number of cylinders for this disk is set to 1650.

There is nothing wrong with that, but this is larger than 1024, and could in certain setups cause problems with:

- 1) software that runs at boot time (e.g., old versions of LILO)
- 2) booting and partitioning software from other OSs (e.g., DOS FDISK, OS/2 FDISK)

Disk /dev/hde: 13.5 GB, 13578485760 bytes  
255 heads, 63 sectors/track, 1650 cylinders  
Units = cylinders of 16065 \* 512 = 8225280 bytes

```
Device Boot Start End Blocks Id System
/dev/hde1 * 1 1649 13245561 7 HPFS/NTFS
```

Parted says :

Using /dev/hde

Warning: Unable to align partition properly. This probably means that another

partitioning tool generated an incorrect partition table, because it didn't have the correct BIOS geometry. It is safe to ignore, but ignoring may cause

(fixable) problems with some boot loaders.

Ignore/Cancel? i

(parted) p

Disk geometry for /dev/hde: 0.000–12949.453 megabytes

Disk label type: msdos

```
Minor Start End Type Filesystem Flags
```

```
1 0.031 12935.148 primary ntfs boot
```

What I'm interested is the fixable part of the parted message. Both the Linux and the other OS installations are sane, changing the boot order in the bios always work. It's not too practical however (going into the bios for this is a great way to nuke a system by fooling with other options). So I'd like to get grub working as it used to.

Am I doing an obvious mistake ?

Is this a grub bug ? Should it be bugzillaed ?

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