

Re: Restore /boot? (wiped out by ubuntu install)

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- *From:* Gene Smith <gds@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 07 Jan 2008 22:55:41 -0500
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Hi Paul,

Thanks for the excellent help. I appreciate the effort you went to writing this up. I now have it working the way I want. See my comments below.

-gene

Paul Johnson wrote, On 01/06/2008 05:06 PM:

On Jan 6, 2008 3:36 PM, Gene Smith <gds@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I had a working Fedore 8 on /dev/sdb. On unused LogVol's on sdb I installed ubuntu. However, ubuntu (live version) **insisted** on reformatting /boot (/dev/sdb1). I did not go back and save the original Fedora 8 /boot files (vmlinuz-, etc) thinking I could easily get them back somehow, but can't determine how.

Is there a way to restore the Fedora 8 /boot contents (w/o a complete reinstall) so it will run again?

You should not have let Ubuntu share the boot partition that Fedora was already using. That was the mistake, in my opinion.

Well, I think it insisted that it had to re-format a /boot partition. I was hoping it would share the one on /dev/sdb with fedora 8. The other choice was to use the /boot partition on /dev/sda which was also in use by fc 6. Anyhow, I let it do its thing thinking I could probably "rescue" it later. Was a bit harder than I thought!

Now, how to fix? I'd try this way. The Most direct route is to create a new partition where you can boot ubuntu from. Create & format that partition, copy the files from your sdb1 to that new partition, then do the grub magic so that the system will boot from that new partition. That amounts to running grub install and editing grub.conf so that it knows where your boot partition is. I have actually done this job and followed a few web pages while doing it.

Be sure Ubuntu runs from that new boot partition before proceeding.

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Since both the fc 6 on sda and f8 installed on sdb are lvm based, creating a new partition would require wiping the drive, I think, Instead I had created some new LogVol's on the copious free space of 500G sdb for ubuntu where it installed OK previously (but taking over /boot).

To restore the f8 /boot I first saved the ubuntu vmlinuz and initrd.img over on to sda (in they got deleted, which they didn't) and, like you suggested, ran "grub-install /dev/sda". But first I had to get a few rpms from the current upda