

Re: Newbie help on partitioning.

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/alt.os.linux.suse/2003-07/1851.html>

From: veritas (verity_at_volcanomail.com)

Date: 07/20/03

Date: Sat, 19 Jul 2003 22:15:35 GMT

On Fri, 18 Jul 2003 23:34:38 +0400, RayOfLight wrote:

> *Hello i am looking forward to install suse 8.2 on my pc (A7N V266 VM,
> 256 MB DDR PC 2100 RAM, 60 GB HD – partitioned in 3 parts – 30 GB with
> Win XP pro installed on FAT 32 and 15 Gb formatted FAT 32 and last 15
> Gb not formatted and free space).*
>
> *i want to install linux on the free 15 GB space. But it seems suse 8.2
> cannot see it when i am trying to instal. This is what YAST is telling
> me*

Hi Ray,

I'm not sure but I suspect the problem might be because the free space is free space, not a formatted partition. People with more expertise and experience will no doubt offer other approaches, but when I first installed SuSE 7.1 (my first foray into Linux), as best I can recall, I went about it this way.

1. I started an install session off the SuSE CD and let it get to the point where it told me what it proposed to do on the HD. I copied down on paper what it said it needed for space and the various partitions. I added all those up except the swap partition and came to a total space requirement.

2. I shut down the install session.

3. I next used vcom Partition Commander to delete one unpopulated Fat32 partition and resize–down another one, leaving me with a free space zone big enough for SuSE 7.1 and then some. I then formatted this free space, creating one big Linux (Ext2) partition and one smaller Linux swap partition, of the size SuSE had proposed.

(Partition Commander creates Linux regular and swap partitions. The latest version even does Ext3.)

alt.os.linux.suse: Re: Newbie help on partitioning.

4. After a complete shutdown and restart, I again booted off the SuSE CD and ran the installation. As I recall, the installer this time went straight for the Linux partition and did what it needed to do in that space, leaving my partitions for Win 98 alone.

Disclaimer: I have no connection to vcom and am reasonably sure PartitionMagic would do the job in the same satisfactory way. There is also a Linux partitioning utility, GNUParted, or Parted, that is fully capable but lacks the (important to me) GUI interface the commercial products have. For me, \$50 for Partition Commander was money well spent, but YMMV.

Hang in there until you get it. Starting with Linux is not as easy as starting with preinstalled Windows. But once you have it going and begin