

Re: Booting Linux from a FAT32 partitioned SD card?

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- *From:* "linnix" <me@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Grant wrote:

On 31 May 2006 13:13:53 -0700, atomicthumbs@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Are there any linux distros that can do that? If not, is there any way to create an ext3 or ReiserFS partition on an SD card along with a FAT32 partition? I want to be able to boot from a portable device of mine.

I've almost been there: CompactFlash formatted ext2, reiserfs, fat32 with a PCMCIA adaptor. Not booted from it, did use a /usr mounted on CompactFlash.

Compact Flash can run in native IDE mode. So you can boot and run it from any system that can run a hard disk. No driver needed.

We boot and run firewalls and stations on CF all the time.

Are you using a USB adapter for the SD card? Then its up to the BIOS to boot it, or, perhaps take a look at Slackware's ZipSlack option which installs on FAT32 and may be booted from ms-dos with linux.bat.

SD card is serial. There must be a hardware translation layer somewhere and BIOS to support it, even if you system has a build-in slot. SD card build for one system is most likely not going to work on another.

CF and SD costs the same and CF are several times faster than SD. Why bother wirh SD?

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See: <http://cfd.linnix.com> for CF usages.

Grant.

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<http://bugsplatter.mine.nu/>