

Mystery of RAID Part II

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Hi,

Thanks to all who helped me last time I posted. I've been reading the Linux RAID How-To at <http://www.tldp.org/HOWTO/Software-RAID-HOWTO.html> (very useful) and I've got the following questions – don't know if anyone knows the answers:

– I've got a machine, two IDE 80 GB drives. I want to completely start from fresh, wipe the machine clean, and set the machine up as a software RAID 1 80 GB machine. Do I install Linux (I'm thinking Debian) on one disc, say disc 1, then setup RAID 1 across disc 1 and disc 2. Is that possible? I ask since from the HOW-TO (<http://www.tldp.org/HOWTO/Software-RAID-HOWTO-4.html#ss4.4>) it sounds like you have to have a separate drive e.g. for the OS, then you can RAID 1 two other discs. Am I wrong?

– The HOW-TO (<http://www.tldp.org/HOWTO/Software-RAID-HOWTO-3.html#ss3.1>) also talks about having one IDE disk per IDE bus. Does this mean a separate PCI IDE controller card for each IDE drive?

– And finally, if I manage to setup my machine with the two drives, disc 1 and disc 2 as RAID 1, if disc 1 or disc 2 dies, the system should continue functioning as normal. Correct? Supposing I then get a replacement for the dead disc presumably I then need to make an exact copy of the remaining disc – if so how do I do that? Or will the software RAID automatically update the new disk?

Thanks for anyone's help and time,
Cheers Steve.