

How to expand the VM disk in esx 3



karuppaiah@wipro.com 1 posts since

Sep 24, 2007

Hi All ,

Good day

Pls help me to expand novel VM disk size in ESX 3.

Recently we have upgraded the esx from 2.5.3 to 3.

How to expand the VM disk in esx 3

Pls provide the steps to expand the disk. Pls let me know, any prerequisites for increasing the disk.

Thanks,

Murugan.



[wkdxion](#) 1 posts since

Sep 10, 2007 1. **Re: How to expand the VM disk in esx 3** Sep 25, 2007 10:30 AM

You need to shutdown the VM

Then log on to the console of the Host server

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Change to the directory that contains the VMDK (you can just pass the full path to the command line but I find this less confusing)

Type the command: `vmkfstools -X <size> G <VMDK file name>` (note that G stands for gigabytes so to expand a disk to 32 GB it would simply be `vmkfstools -X 32G some.vmdk`).

Type `ls -lh` and you should see the VMDK is now that size.

At this point you must use the OS tools in order to see the additional space. I don't know how this is done in Novel but in Windows I use the 'diskpart' tool.

Good luck

p.s. of course you make a backup first 😊

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[dansolo](#) 3 posts since

Sep 10, 2007 2. **Re: How to expand the VM disk in esx 3** Sep 26, 2007 8:37 AM

Two tidbits to add.

1. Make sure that ALL snapshots are committed before you expand the disk or you will have issues.

2. We use a bootable linux tool called gparted to expand the partition. Works wonders. My Windows systems run without a hitch.



[marcel s.](#) 2 posts since

Dec 21, 2007 3. **Re: How to expand the VM disk in esx 3** Dec 21, 2007 6:53 AM

the before mentioned vmfsktools work perfectly, if your not a pro in linux command line use, you could possibly also use the vmware converter to expand your vm.


anyhow, the command line description is way faster when u know what you are doing ^^

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[Pakalapati Edukondalu](#) 1 posts since

Dec 20, 2007 4. **Re: How to expand the VM disk in esx 3** Dec 26, 2007 11:55 PM

 in response to: [dansolo](#)

Yes.. I also used gparted tool. It works nicely. But take a snap shot of the guest OS immediate after disk expansion, because the old snapshot (the Guest Os snap shot before disk expansion) will not work to revert.

Chrees

Edu ..



[David Waldron](#) 1 posts since

Feb 20, 2008 5. **Re: How to expand the VM disk in esx 3** Feb 20, 2008 7:24 AM

If you are running ESX 3.5/VC 2.5, VC now has the option to extend the VMDK file through the GUI as well. I've used it a number of times so far and haven't had any problems.

--Dave

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[Srinivas Vivek](#) 2 posts since

Feb 26, 2008 6. **Re: How to expand the VM disk in esx 3** Aug 7, 2008 1:45 PM

Use Free VM Converter. Using this you can shrink too with ease