

# How to decrease the size of your...

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Stephen 5 posts since

Dec 9, 2007

Hello All

I have a question about decreasing the size of an existing VM's hard disk [VMFS](#).

I converted a physical server to VM by using VMware Converter.

I have re-sized the partition using a partitioning tool but unable to decrease the size of the physical disk under Intrastructure Client.

While i know how to increase the disk, im unable to decrease the size.

Can anyone assist.

Im using Intrastructure client and not Virtual Center.

How to decrease the size of your...

VMware ESX 3.5 Server.

Regards



[weatherman](#) 2 posts since

Sep 10, 2007 1. **Re: How to decrease the size of your Virtual Disk?** May 2, 2008 12:07 PM

This is a great article that should help you out with your issue: <http://communities.vmware.com/click.jspa?searchID=2240814&objectType=2&objectID=450465>

It talks about expanding the disk but the same process can be used to shrink the disk as well. And this process also works on your BOOT disk in your VM! I use it all the time. Good luck!



[Stephen](#) 5 posts since

Dec 9, 2007 2. **Re: How to decrease the size of your Virtual Disk?** May 11, 2008 7:07 PM

👤 in response to: [weatherman](#)

Thanks for the reply mate.

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I found that if i changed the size of the disks during migration with VMware Converter, the process was completed for me.

For example:

I migrated my exchange server which had a primary c:\ of 10Gb and a data drive d:\ of 60Gb

During my migration i had the option of changing my disk sizes.

I changed my c:\ from 10Gb to 20Gb and my data drive d:\ from 60Gb to 40Gb.

So in this instance I increased and decreased my disk drives.

I thought i would have to run a partitioning tool to complete the alterations, but to my surprise the partitions were altered for me during migration. Very happy yet very surprised.



[deepak](#) 1 posts since

May 9, 2008 3. **Re: How to decrease the size of your Virtual Disk?** May 12, 2008 4:07 AM

in response to: [Stephen](#)

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Yes i would like to add a point here.... That is the strength of "MIGRATIONS", even though i have not used vmware convertor... i used a similiar tool i.e. HP Server Migration Pack... in which you can actually resize/shrink the partitions if you want to.... and the destination machine would have those changes present in it ...



[Wally Hass](#) 1 posts since

Aug 14, 2008 4. **Re: How to decrease the size of your Virtaul Disk?** Aug 14, 2008 7:32 AM

[↑](#) in response to: [Stephen](#)

Hello,

We are getting ready to convert a DC/Exchange 2003 server to a VM. Any advice before we start?

Thanks,

Wally

How to decrease the size of your...



[John Rossi](#) 2 posts since

Sep 10, 2007 5. **Re: How to decrease the size of your Virtual Disk?** Sep 15, 2008 5:16 PM

We've been able to do this on Windows VMs by:

1. Adding a new VMDK of the desired size
2. Boot the VM off our BartPE boot ISO
3. Use Ghost32 off the BartPE to image the old (large) disk to the new (small) disk
4. Restart the VM
5. Change the drive letters as required
6. After verifying proper operation, shut down the VM and remove the old (large) disk