

RHEL: Extending a multipath LUN

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Tested on RHEL 6

This procedure may be carried out to make visible the new size of a LUN that is already

presented and used by the OS and that has been extended at SAN storage level.

Whenever possible I recommend to create a new LUN at SAN level instead of doing an

extension. In some situations we may experience some trouble when trying to recognize

the new size of a disk that has been extended so a reboot may be necessary.

Find the paths to the LUN:

multipath -ll

[...]

```
my_lun_01 (200255c3a11080003) dm-38 NEC,DISK ARRAY
size=120G features='1 queue_if_no_path' hwhandler='1 alua' wp=rw
|-+- policy='round-robin 0' prio=50 status=active
|  |- 1:0:2:0 sdm 65:32 active ready running
|  `-- 2:0:2:0 sdo 65:64 active ready running
`-+- policy='round-robin 0' prio=10 status=enabled
    |- 1:0:3:0 sdn 65:16 active ready running
    `-- 2:0:3:0 sdp 65:48 active ready running
```

```
# Rescan the paths:
```

```
echo 1 > /sys/block/sdm/device/rescan
echo 1 > /sys/block/sdo/device/rescan
echo 1 > /sys/block/sdn/device/rescan
echo 1 > /sys/block/sdp/device/rescan
```

```
# Resize the multipath device:
```

```
multipathd -k'resize map my_lun_01'
    ok
```

```
# or, in interactive mode:
```

```
# multipathd -k
# multipathd> resize map my_lun_01
# ok
# multipathd> exit
```

```
# Check
```

```
multipath -ll
```

```
[...]
```

```
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```

At this point, physical volume size shown by '**pvdisplay**' and '**fdisk**' should be different.

If existing physical volume was created directly on the whole disk, without partition,
a '**pvresize**' should be enough for the new size to be taken into account

pvresize /dev/\$SD

If, on the other hand, disk is already partitioned, this is, we are using devices in the
form /dev/sdx1, /dev/sdx2, we have to create a new partition with '**fdisk**' tool

fdisk /dev/\$SD

The number of cylinders for this disk is set to 2480.

There is nothing wrong with that, but this is larger than 1024, and could in certain setups cause problems with:

- 1) software that runs at boot time (e.g., old versions of LILO)
- 2) booting and partitioning software from other OSs (e.g., DOS

FDISK, OS/2 FDISK)

Command (m for help): **p**

Disk /dev/sdc: 20.4 GB, 20401094656 bytes

255 heads, 63 sectors/track, 2480 cylinders

Units = cylinders of 16065 * 512 = 8225280 bytes

Device	Boot	Start	End	Blocks	Id	System
/dev/sdc1	*	1	33	265041	83	Linux
/dev/sdc2		34	1958	15462562+	8e	Linux LVM

Let's create a new partition. In our case, we'll create partition #
3

```
# (primary Linux LVM partition). For the first and last cylinder
usually default values
# will be ok; if not, choose carefully the beginning and the end of
the new partition to
# avoid
```

```
Command (m for help): n
Command action
e   extended
p   primary partition (1-4)
p
Partition number (1-4): 3
First cylinder (1959-2480, default 1959):
Using default value 1959
Last cylinder or +size or +sizeM or +sizeK (1959-2480, default
2480):
Using default value 2480
```

```
Command (m for help): t
Partition number (1-4): 3
Hex code (type L to list codes): 8e
Changed system type of partition 3 to 8e (Linux LVM)
```

```
Command (m for help): w
The partition table has been altered!
```

```
Calling ioctl() to re-read partition table.
```

```
WARNING: Re-reading the partition table failed with error 16:
Device or resource busy.
The kernel still uses the old table.
The new table will be used at the next reboot.
Syncing disks.
```

```
# Rescan disks
```

```
partprobe -s
```

It may be that we have an error like following on (usually on RHEL 6):

Warning: WARNING: the kernel failed to re-read the partition table on /dev/sdc (Device or resource busy).

As a result, it may not reflect all of your changes until after reboot.

The use following command instead:

partx -a /dev/\$SD

New partition is ready to be used ('**pvccreate**', etc)

brw-r----- 1 root disk 8, 33 Nov 3 15:15 /dev/sdc1

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