

RHEL: Adding a boot entry to GRUB/GRUB2 configuration

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Tested on RHEL 6 & 7

RHEL 6

Adding a new entry to grub boot file is as simple as adding a new boot stanza, at the end

of the file, to **/boot/grub/grub.conf**

To modify the default boot entry, we have to change the 'default' option to point to the

the new stanza. We can use entry position (zero-based numbering):

vi /boot/grub/grub.conf

[...]

default=1

timeout=5

splashimage=(hd0,0)/grub/splash.xpm.gz

hiddenmenu

title CentOS (2.6.32-358.el6.i686)

 root (hd0,0)

 kernel /vmlinuz-2.6.32-358.el6.i686 ro

root=/dev/mapper/rootvg-lv_root [...]

 initrd /initramfs-2.6.32-358.el6.i686.img

title CentOS - Backup ramdisk image

 root (hd0,0)

 kernel /vmlinuz-2.6.32-358.el6.i686 ro

```

root=/dev/mapper/rootvg-lv_root [...]
    initrd /initramfs-2.6.32-358.el6.i686.img.bak

# RHEL 7
# -----
# -----

# RHEL 7 uses grub2 and /boot/grub2/grub.cfg config file, instead of
the old grub.conf
# format.

# The new grub.cfg file is not intended for direct editing. Rather we
have to modify the
# source file and run the grub2-mkconfig command to generate it.

# The sources files are /etc/default/grub and the scripts under
/etc/grub.d/

# If we want to add a new custom entry to boot menu, we have to add a
boot stanza to
# /etc/grub.d/40_custom. These stanzas will look like this:

menuentry "CentOS - Backup ramdisk image" {
    load_video
    set gfxpayload=keep
    insmod gzio
    insmod part_msdos
    insmod ext2
    set root='hd0,msdos1'
    linux16 /vmlinuz-3.10.0-327.el7.i686 root=/dev/mapper/rootvg-
lv_root ro crashkernel=auto [...]
    initrd16 /initramfs-3.10.0-327.el7.i686.img.bak
}
menuentry "Another boot entry" {
    set root=(hd0,1)

```

```
linux /vmlinuz-3.09-custom
initrd /initrd-3.09-custom.img
}
```

```
# To modify the default boot entry, we have to change the
GRUB_DEFAULT option in
# /etc/default/grub to point to the new stanza we added. We can use
entry position
# (zero-based numbering) or by name:
```

```
GRUB_DEFAULT="CentOS - Backup ramdisk image"
```

```
# or # GRUB_DEFAULT=2
```

```
# Default value of GRUB_DEFAULT is 'saved' which points to
/boot/grub2/grubenv file.
```

```
# Once finished, we have to run following command in order to re-
generate
# /boot/grub2/grub.cfg file:
```

```
grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/grub2/grub.cfg
```

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