

How to create correct partitions to deploy a Windows image to a UEFI based device

We have recently come across an issue when trying to deploy a test virtual machine using Hyper-V (Generation 2 - UEFI) that once you have selected your task sequence, you get an error and the task sequence bombs out.

This is because we had not setup the correct drive partitions to be able to deploy using Generation 2 technology. To fix it, you need to manually create the correct disk partitions using diskpart, which you can access from within WinPE and with the new Configuration Manager feature of being able to click **Back**, you can start the process again without having to reboot using USB or PXE.

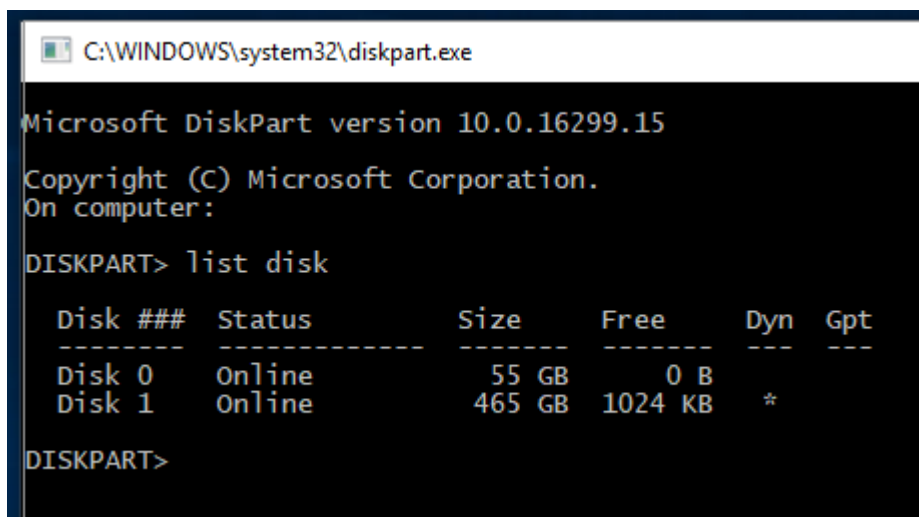
Instructions

So the first thing you will want to do when your task sequence stops is to click the back button so that the machine does not automatically reboot or you don't accidentally reboot the machine yourself.

Then go ahead and press the **F8** key to bring up a command box (this is assuming that you have enabled Command Support in your boot image). You should then follow these simple steps to create the correct disk partitions.

- Type **diskpart** and press the **enter** key
- Type **list disk** and press the **enter** key

This will now show all of the disks that you have connected to your machine:



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\diskpart.exe

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.16299.15
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer:

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status         Size           Free           Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online         55 GB           0 B
   Disk 1    Online        465 GB        1024 KB          *

DISKPART>
```

Note the disk number that you want to create the partitions on and continue with the following steps:

- For this guides purposes, we will go ahead and use **Disk 0**
- Type **select disk 0** and press the **enter** key (amend the 0 if required)
- Type **clean** and press the **enter** key (this will remove all partitions on the disk)
- Type **convert gpt** and press the **enter** key (this will convert the disk to [GPT](#))
- Type **create partition efi size=200** and press the **enter** key (this will create the [EFI system partition](#))

- Type **assign letter=x** and press the **enter** key (this will assign the letter x to this partition but you can use any available drive letter)
- Type **format fs=FAT32 quick** and press the **enter** key (this will format the ESP to the FAT32 file system, quickly)
- Type **create partition msr size=128** and press the **enter** key (this will create the MSR partition)
- Type **create partition primary** and press the **enter** key (this will create the Windows partition)
- Type **assign letter=c** and press the **enter** key (this will assign the drive letter C to the Windows partition)
- Type **format fs=NTFS quick** and press the **enter** key (this will format the primary partition to the NTFS file system, quickly)

This will have now created all of the partitions that you need to build a UEFI based machine. You can check the partitions by typing **list part** - you should see all the partitions you have just created, if not, start the above process again.

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