

## Partitioning the Hard Drive for 4.2x and Earlier

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**Note: If you have a 486 computer, please see the [limitations on the hard drive](#).**

1. There must be a 32MB partition for the capture directory. Plug in a new drive as a Slave to a running bootable Master drive. Have a bootable floppy disk available. If you don't currently have one you can create one by putting in a formatted floppy into the A: drive and typing `c:\sys a:`

**Note: Perform the following steps on the drive installed as the slave, using *fdisk*.**

2. Create a primary partition on the drive equal to: (the total disk space) – 32MB.

3. Then make the rest of the drive an extended partition.

4. Create the primary DOS partition.

From the main fdisk menu:

a) Select "1. Create Dos partition or logical Dos drive."

b) Select "1. Create Primary Dos partition."

(At this point you may get a Vsafe warning, just Continue through it and any future warnings.)

When asked, "Do you wish to use the maximum available size for a Primary Dos partition [N]". Enter **No**

When prompted "Enter partition size in Mbytes or percent of disk space (%) to create a Primary Dos partition...", Enter (total disk space) – 32MB. For example, a 2GB HDD has a total disk space of 2012 – 32 = 1980

Press **Esc** to get to the fdisk main menu.

5. Create the extended partition.

From the main fdisk menu:

a) Select "1. Create Dos partition or logical Dos drive."

b) Select "2. Create Extended Dos partition."

When asked, "Enter partition size in Mbytes or percent of disk space (%)...[32]". Enter **32**.

Press **Esc** to get to the fdisk main menu.

6. Make the extended partition logical.

From the main fdisk menu:

a) Select "1. Create Dos partition or logical Dos drive."

b) Select "3. Create Logical Dos drive(s) in the Extended Dos partition."

"Enter logical drive size in Mbytes or percent of disk space (%)...[32]" Enter **32**.

Press **Esc** to exit fdisk.

7. Power down the computer.

8. Switch the Master and Slave drives by changing the jumper positions on each of the drives.

9. Reboot with the bootable floppy in the A drive.

10. Set the Active partition.

Change directories to the Dos directory. **a:\cd d:\dos**

Enter Fdisk. **d:\dos\fdisk**

"2. Set active partition."

"Enter the number of the partition you want to make active...[1]" Enter **1**

Press **Esc** to exit fdisk.

11. Format the primary partition by typing **format /s c:**

12. Copy Dos over to the new drive by typing **xcopy d:\dos c:\dos /s**

13. Power down the computer.

14. Unplug the old drive (Slave)

15. Reboot from the new drive by removing the floppy.

16. Format the extended partition by typing **format d:**.

17. Install Nanoscope software from floppies.

Insert the "Install Disk" into the A drive.

Follow on screen instructions.

Copy over the "config.sys" and the "autoexec.bat" files.

18. Start the software by typing **z /i**. This will initialize the software.

Thanks to: [Sean Clayton](#) (Author)