

diskpart

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Applies to: Windows Server 2022, Windows 10, Windows 8.1, Windows 8, Windows 7, Windows Server 2019, Windows Server 2016, Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows Server 2012, and Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows Server 2008

The diskpart command interpreter helps you manage your computer's drives (disks, partitions, volumes, or virtual hard disks).

Before you can use **diskpart** commands, you must first list, and then select an object to give it focus. After an object has focus, any diskpart commands that you type will act on that object.

When you select an object, the focus remains on that object until you select a different object. For example, if the focus is set on disk 0 and you select volume 8 on disk 2, the focus shifts from disk 0 to disk 2, volume 8.

Some commands automatically change the focus. For example, when you create a new partition, the focus automatically switches to the new partition.

You can only give focus to a partition on the selected disk. After a partition has focus, the related volume (if any) also has focus. After a volume has focus, the related disk and partition also have focus if the volume maps to a single specific partition. If this isn't the case, focus on the disk and partition are lost.

To start the diskpart command interpreter, at the command prompt type:

```
diskpart <parameter>
```

Important

You must be in your local **Administrators** group, or a group with similar permissions, to run diskpart.

You can run the following commands from the Diskpart command interpreter:

Command	Description
active	Marks the disk's partition with focus, as active.
add	Mirrors the simple volume with focus to the specified disk.
assign	Assigns a drive letter or mount point to the volume with focus.
attach vdisk	Attaches (sometimes called mounts or surfaces) a virtual hard disk (VHD) so that it appears on the host computer as a local hard disk drive.

Command	Description
<u>attributes</u>	Displays, sets, or clears the attributes of a disk or volume.
<u>automount</u>	Enables or disables the automount feature.
<u>break</u>	Breaks the mirrored volume with focus into two simple volumes.
<u>clean</u>	Removes any and all partition or volume formatting from the disk with focus.
<u>compact</u> <u>vdisk</u>	Reduces the physical size of a dynamically expanding virtual hard disk (VHD) file.
<u>convert</u>	Converts file allocation table (FAT) and FAT32 volumes to the NTFS file system, leaving existing files and directories intact.
<u>create</u>	Creates a partition on a disk, a volume on one or more disks, or a virtual hard disk (VHD).
<u>delete</u>	Deletes a partition or a volume.
<u>detach vdisk</u>	Stops the selected virtual hard disk (VHD) from appearing as a local hard disk drive on the host computer.
<u>detail</u>	Displays information about the selected disk, partition, volume, or virtual hard disk (VHD).
<u>exit</u>	Exits the diskpart command interpreter.
<u>expand</u> <u>vdisk</u>	Expands a virtual hard disk (VHD) to the size that you specify.
<u>extend</u>	Extends the volume or partition with focus, along with its file system, into free (unallocated) space on a disk.
<u>filesystems</u>	Displays information about the current file system of the volume with focus and lists the file systems that are supported for formatting the volume.
<u>format</u>	Formats a disk to accept files.
<u>gpt</u>	Assigns the gpt attribute(s) to the partition with focus on basic GUID partition table (gpt) disks.
<u>help</u>	Displays a list of the available commands or detailed help information on a specified command.
<u>import</u>	Imports a foreign disk group into the disk group of the local computer.
<u>inactive</u>	Marks the system partition or boot partition with focus as inactive on basic master boot record (MBR) disks.

Command	Description
list	Displays a list of disks, of partitions in a disk, of volumes in a disk, or of virtual hard disks (VHDs).
merge vdisk	Merges a differencing virtual hard disk (VHD) with its corresponding parent VHD.
offline	Takes an online disk or volume to the offline state.
online	Takes an offline disk or volume to the online state.
recover	Refreshes the state of all disks in a disk group, attempt to recover disks in an invalid disk group, and resynchronizes mirrored volumes and RAID-5 volumes that have stale data.
rem	Provides a way to add comments to a script.
remove	Removes a drive letter or mount point from a volume.
repair	Repairs the RAID-5 volume with focus by replacing the failed disk region with the specified dynamic disk.
rescan	Locates new disks that may have been added to the computer.
retain	Prepares an existing dynamic simple volume to be used as a boot or system volume.
san	Displays or sets the storage area network (san) policy for the operating system.
select	Shifts the focus to a disk, partition, volume, or virtual hard disk (VHD).
set id	Changes the partition type field for the partition with focus.
shrink	Reduces the size of the selected volume by the amount you specify.
uniqueid	Displays or sets the GUID partition table (GPT) identifier or master boot record (MBR) signature for the disk with focus.

You can view a list of options associated to each command by running the main command followed by what is available to that specific command. Running **list** by itself will display the four parameters below:

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
C:\Users\Administrator>diskpart

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.20348.1

Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: MAPLEWAFFLE-WS2

DISKPART> list

Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.20348.1

DISK          - Display a list of disks. For example, LIST DISK.
PARTITION    - Display a list of partitions on the selected disk.
               For example, LIST PARTITION.
VOLUME       - Display a list of volumes. For example, LIST VOLUME.
VDISK        - Displays a list of virtual disks.

DISKPART> _
```

Note

After you run the **list** command, an asterisk (*) appears next to the object of focus.

To see available disk(s), run **list disk**:

```
list disk
```

To select a disk, run **select disk** followed by the disk number. For example:

```
select disk 1
```

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
Microsoft DiskPart version 10.0.20348.1
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation.
On computer: MAPLEWAFFLE-WS2

DISKPART> list disk

   Disk ###  Status              Size               Free              Dyn  Gpt
   -----  -
   Disk 0    Online              60 GB              1024 KB
   Disk 1    Online             1024 MB             1984 KB

DISKPART> select disk 1

Disk 1 is now the selected disk.

DISKPART> _
```

Before disk 1 can be utilized, a partition will need to be created by running **create partition primary**:

```
create partition primary
```

Lastly, we can perform a quick format of disk 1 to NTFS with the label "Backup" by running **format fs=ntfs label=Backup quick** as seen below:

```
format fs=ntfs label=Backup quick
```

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - diskpart
DISKPART> select disk 1
Disk 1 is now the selected disk.
DISKPART> create partition primary
DiskPart succeeded in creating the specified partition.
DISKPART> format fs=ntfs label=Backup quick
    100 percent completed
DiskPart successfully formatted the volume.
DISKPART> _
```

- [Command-Line Syntax Key](#)
- [Disk management overview](#)
- [Storage Cmdlets in Windows PowerShell](#)

Source: <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/administration/windows-commands/diskpart>