

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Dual-Boot Debian Wheezy & Windows 8.1 /w Debian Installed First](#)

BLURRYF?CE - December 12, 2014, 6:21 am

How does one dual-boot Debian Wheezy & Windows 8.1 /w Debian Wheezy installed first?

Tirus - December 12, 2014, 11:27 am

You need to select the partition you wish to install Windows on with a specific size you wish the Windows drive to be.

BLURRYF?CE - December 12, 2014, 11:44 am

(Dec 12, 2014 12:27 PM)Tirus Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You need to select the partition you wish to install Windows on with a specific size you wish the Windows drive to be. Yes, but how to deal with the fact that the Windows bootloader will overwrite the GRUB bootloader? Also, the Debian Wheezy install is LVM encrypted with dm-crypt, any specific details I need to know as to how to re-construct the GRUB bootloader after installing Windows?

Betty Blue - December 12, 2014, 12:04 pm

(Dec 12, 2014 12:44 PM)vurezo Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes, but how to deal with the fact that the Windows bootloader will overwrite the GRUB bootloader? Also, the Debian Wheezy install is LVM encrypted with dm-crypt, any specific details I need to know as to how to re-construct the GRUB bootloader after installing Windows? It is preferable to install Windows first. But if you can't, just install Windows and then install GRUB again.

BLURRYF?CE - December 12, 2014, 12:05 pm

(Dec 12, 2014 01:04 PM)Zack de la Rocha Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It is preferable to install Windows first. But if you can't, just install Windows and then install GRUB again. How does one go towards doing such?

Betty Blue - December 12, 2014, 12:06 pm

(Dec 12, 2014 01:05 PM)vurezo Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How does one go towards doing such? Balls. I forget the exact steps to do it.

You could probably use the Debian disk you used for Wheezy and then skip all the steps except 'Install and Add Grub to the MBR'.

MoonCakeRuler - December 12, 2014, 2:43 pm

I had the same problem with my laptop, which came with Ubuntu and I had to install Windows on a different partition. I ran into it once before so I was able to fix it by chrooting into the installed Ubuntu and then installing/updating grub there. The steps are kinda like this.

Boot using whatever live media you have. Open a terminal and type the following, use sudo or just go root.

First, mount the partition where Debian is installed. Let's say you have your root filesystem on /dev/sda1. You can do it with:

Code mount /dev/sda1 /mnt/mnt is where it's being mounted, you can change it of course.

Next, you need to bind mount the /dev, /run, /sys and /proc directories, as they need to be populated manually. Bind mounts basically mount a path to another instead of mounting a device

with a FS.

```
Code mount --bind /dev /mnt/dev
```

```
mount --bind /run /mnt/run
```

```
mount --bind /sys /mnt/sys
```

```
mount --bind /proc /mnt/proc
```

I think a loop would do as well, but let's just play it safe for now xD

Next, chroot into the mounted system.

```
Code chroot /mnt
```

You should be inside your installed Debian right now. From here just update/install grub. Here take care to install it to /dev/sda, not to /dev/sda1.

```
Code $ grub-install /dev/sda
```

```
$ update-grub
```

That should re-install grub. Exit from the chroot with 'exit' and then unmount everything using 'umount'.

```
Code umount /mnt
```

Then just re-start your machine and your grub should be back. This has kinda stuck to me because I've done it twice for me personally and for a few friends of mine who got into the same sticky situation.

However, just be careful with the partitions. There isn't much to screw up if you're careful but still it may lead to data loss if you mess up.

Hope that helps. There are other solutions using Rescue disks and so on I assume but this has kinda worked out for me so I hope it works out for you as well. If it doesn't, oh well. xD