

[How-To] Format and Mount Data Drive on Debian Server

Purpose

This doc shows how to take an additional virtual hard drive on a linux vm and make a mount point on the main drive with it for nextcloud data.

Prerequisites

List of prerequisites:

- Root user or sudo user
- Debian 12 LXC or VM

Instructions

Step 1: Create a Partition on the New Drive

1. Use `fdisk` to partition the drive:

```
sudo fdisk /dev/sdb
```

2. Inside the `fdisk` utility:

- Press `n` to create a new partition.
- Select `p` for a primary partition.
- Accept the default values for the first and last sectors (this will use the entire disk).
- Press `w` to write the changes and exit.

Step 2: Format the Partition

1. Verify the partition name (it should be `/dev/sdb1` after partitioning):

```
lsblk
```

2. Format the partition with the ext4 filesystem:

```
sudo mkfs.ext4 /dev/sdb1
```

Step 3: Mount the Partition

1. Create a directory to mount the drive (e.g., `/mnt/nextcloud-data`):

```
sudo mkdir /mnt/nextcloud-data
```

2. Mount the partition to the directory:

```
sudo mount /dev/sdb1 /mnt/nextcloud-data
```

Step 4: Make the Mount Persistent

1. Get the UUID of the new partition:

```
sudo blkid /dev/sdb1
```

Example output:

```
/dev/sdb1: UUID="abcd-1234-efgh-5678" TYPE="ext4"
```

2. Edit the `/etc/fstab` file:

```
sudo nano /etc/fstab
```

3. Add the following line to the file:

```
UUID=abcd-1234-efgh-5678 /mnt/nextcloud-data ext4 defaults 0 2
```

4. Save and exit the editor.

Step 5: Update Nextcloud Configuration

1. Move existing Nextcloud data to the new drive:

```
sudo rsync -a /path/to/current/nextcloud/data/ /mnt/nextcloud-data/
```

Replace `/path/to/current/nextcloud/data/` with the actual path to your current Nextcloud data directory.

2. Update the `datadirectory` path in Nextcloud's configuration file (`config.php`):

```
sudo nano /var/www/nextcloud/config/config.php
```

Find the `datadirectory` line and change it to:

```
'datadirectory' => '/mnt/nextcloud-data',
```

3. Set the correct permissions:

```
sudo chown -R www-data:www-data /mnt/nextcloud-data
```

Step 6: Restart Services

1. Restart the web server and PHP:

```
sudo systemctl restart apache2
```

2. Ensure everything works:

- Log in to your Nextcloud instance.
- Verify that the new data directory is being used.

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