

VirtualBox Stuff

Disk Image Management

Create Disk Image

```
$ VBoxManage createmedium disk --filename <file.vdi> --size <megabytes>

$ VBoxManage createmedium disk --filename=/path/to/rawdisk.vmdk \
  --variant=RawDisk --format=VMDK --property RawDrive=/dev/sda
```

Convert Image to Disk

```
$ VBoxManage convertfromraw -format VDI <file.img> <file.vdi>
```

Compact Disk Image

```
$ VBoxManage modifymedium --compact <file.vdi>
```

Dumping Ground

Dumping this here... from my blog...

VirtualBox EFI Screen Resolution

[vbox_screenres.txt](#)

The window of a VirtualBox VM with EFI boot simply cannot fit my laptop screen - and I hate running a VM with scrollbars. So, after looking around for while, I found the solution. Understandably, it requires running command line.

```
VBoxManage setextradata LiveBox VBoxInternal2/EfiGraphicsResolution 800x600
```

I want the window for my VM (LiveBox) to be at most 800x600. We can check that value by running,

```
VBoxManage getextradata LiveBox
VBoxInternal2/EfiGraphicsResolution
```

While we are at it, to view the current firmware used by a VM,

```
VBoxManage showvminfo LiveBox | grep Firmware
```

And, finally, to actually select a firmware (options: bios / efi),

```
VBoxManage modifyvm LiveBox --firmware efi
```

That's about that.

VirtualBox EFI Shell

[vbox_efi_shell.txt](#)

I am using VirtualBox quite a bit (I occasionally go qemu from time to time), especially to test my live Linux builds. I now mostly setup my virtual machines to have the EFI boot enabled. However, whenever I do an installation, the machine will most of the time stop at a UEFI shell prompt.

To boot the previously installed system, you need to identify your EFI partition (e.g. fs0) from the listed devices and look for the path to the bootloader (e.g. grubx64.efi). You can type (these are case insensitive),

```
FS0:  
\EFI\ubuntu\grubx64.efi
```

It should now boot. But, you will still get that prompt on the next boot. To make it permanent,

```
FS0:  
edit startup.nsh
```

That will start a text editor. Write exactly what we typed before to boot. Press <Ctrl+s> and <Enter> to save, and <Ctrl+q> to quit. Now, your bootloader should execute when the system starts.

more coming soon...

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