

Instructions for creating a master partition in Ubuntu

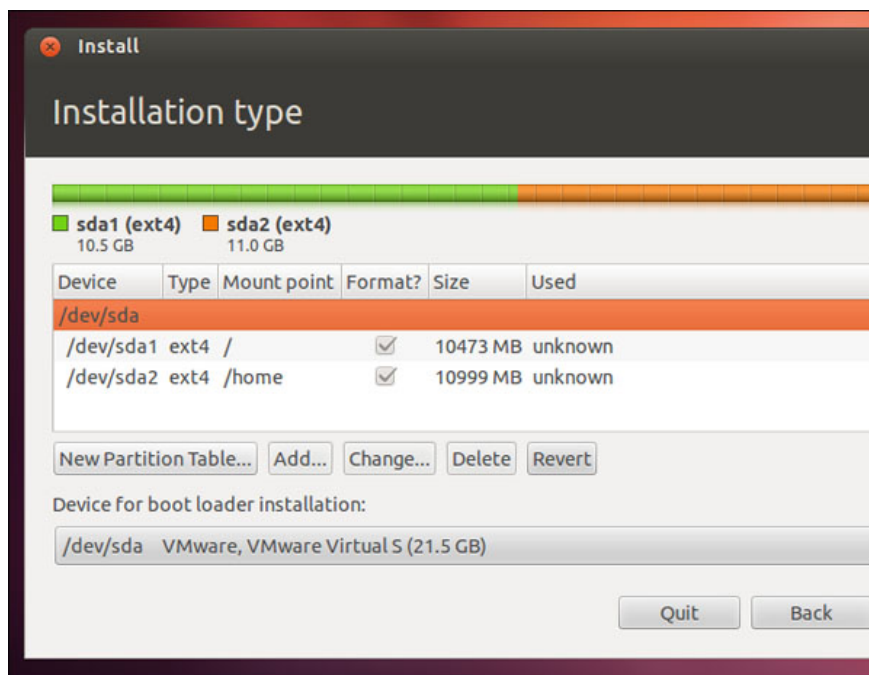
Ubuntu does not use a separate master partition by default, although many Linux users prefer this. Use a separate master partition to allow you to reinstall Ubuntu without losing personal files and settings.

TipsMake.com - Ubuntu does not use a separate master partition by default, although many Linux users prefer this. Use a separate master partition to allow you to reinstall Ubuntu without losing personal files and settings.

While a master partition is usually selected during installation, you can also move the master partition after installing Ubuntu.

During Ubuntu installation

Creating a home folder (Home Folder) while installing Ubuntu is easy. Choose the option to install 'Something Else' to customize the partition and create multiple partitions. Set the mount point for each partition to '/' to contain the root file system and mount point of another partition as /home. When installing Ubuntu in the future, users can set the old master partition to /home again, but make sure not to tick the Format box or the entire file will be deleted.

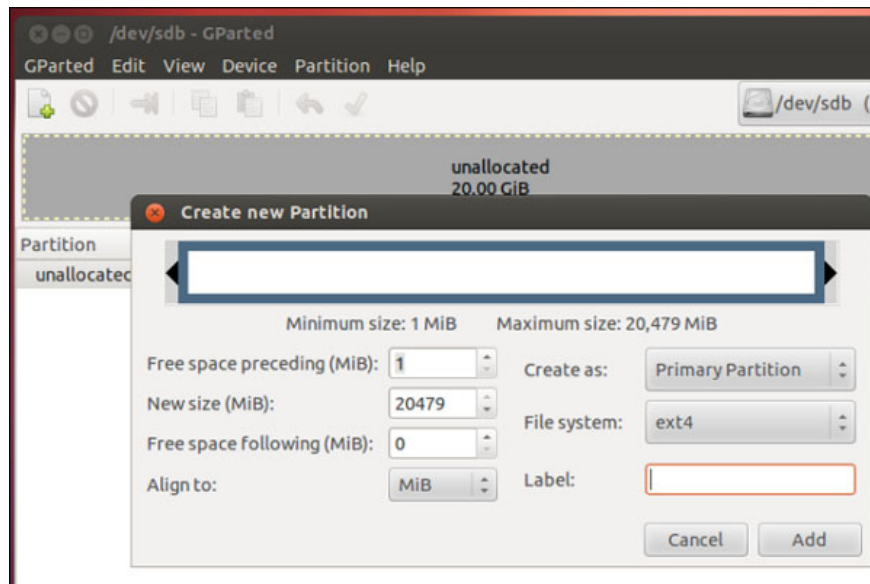


After installing Ubuntu

If you did not create a master partition during Ubuntu installation, you do not have to reinstall Ubuntu from the beginning. To move the master partition after installation, we will have to create a new partition, copy the file from the current home directory to this partition and tell Ubuntu to extract the new partition at / home.

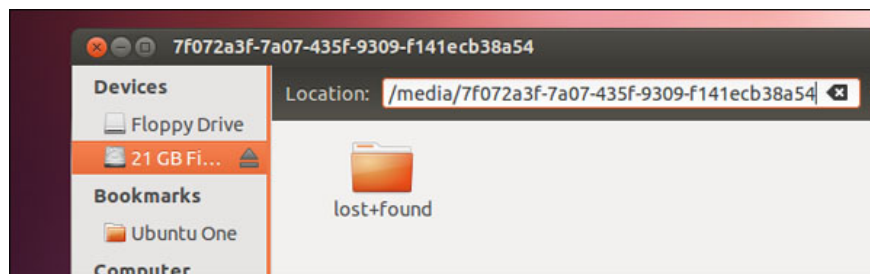
Step 1: Create a new partition

If there is an empty storage space, this step is easy. If not, we will have to resize the system partition and create a new partition at the empty storage space. If there is an empty storage space or you do not need to resize the system partition, you only need to install GParted and create a partition without rebooting from the CD. Here we create a partition named ext4.



Step 2: Copy the file in the Home Folder to the new partition

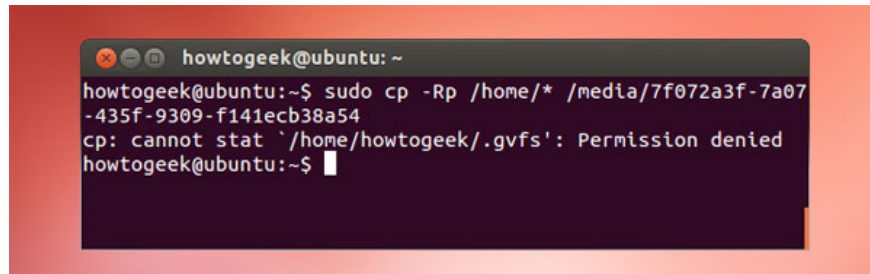
Ubuntu extracts the file to a new partition very easily, just click below the Devices section in the file manager. After that, click on the **Go** menu and select **Location** to view the mount point.



Launch the command window and execute the following command to create a copy of the current home directory on the new partition, with / mount / location as the location of the extracted partition:

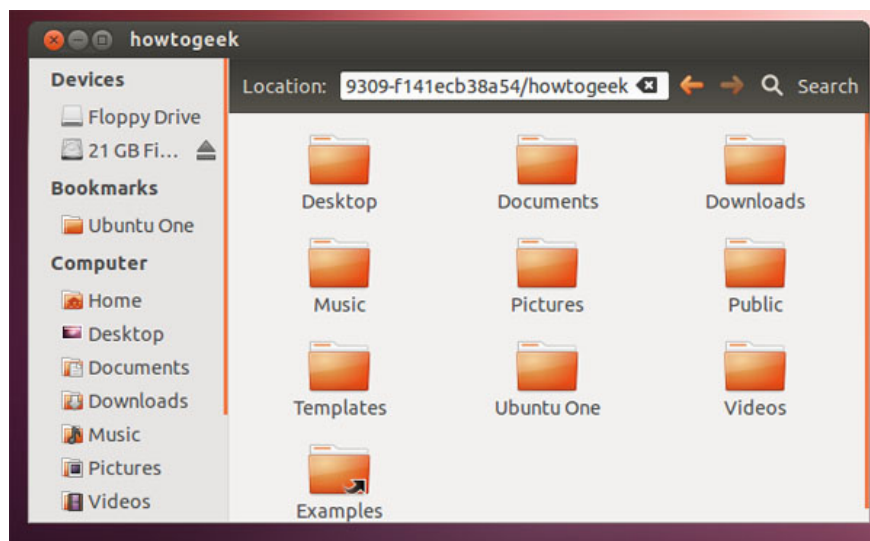
```
sudo cp -Rp /home/* /mount/location
```

We will see an error about a `.gvfs` folder but it's okay, ignore it.



```
howtogeek@ubuntu: ~  
howtogeek@ubuntu:~$ sudo cp -Rp /home/* /media/7f072a3f-7a07-435f-9309-f141ecb38a54  
cp: cannot stat `/home/howtogeek/.gvfs': Permission denied  
howtogeek@ubuntu:~$
```

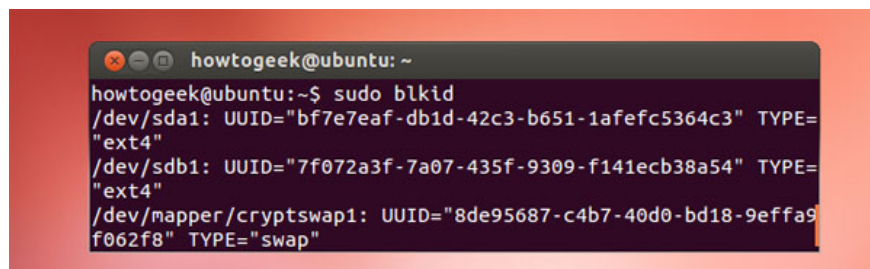
Users should check the new home directory to confirm that it contains your files. However, we have not deleted the old home directory yet.



Step 3: Locate the UUID for the new partition

The long string of characters is actually the new UUID of the partition and we will need it to add the partition to the `fstab` file to tell Linux the location of the partitions when it starts. Users can also locate the UUID by entering the following command in the command window:

```
sudo blkid
```



```
howtogeek@ubuntu: ~  
howtogeek@ubuntu:~$ sudo blkid  
/dev/sda1: UUID="bf7e7eaf-db1d-42c3-b651-1afefc5364c3" TYPE="ext4"  
/dev/sdb1: UUID="7f072a3f-7a07-435f-9309-f141ecb38a54" TYPE="ext4"  
/dev/mapper/cryptswap1: UUID="8de95687-c4b7-40d0-bd18-9effa9f062f8" TYPE="swap"
```

Step 4: Edit the fstab file

Before fixing the fstab file, we should create a backup to restore it if something goes wrong:

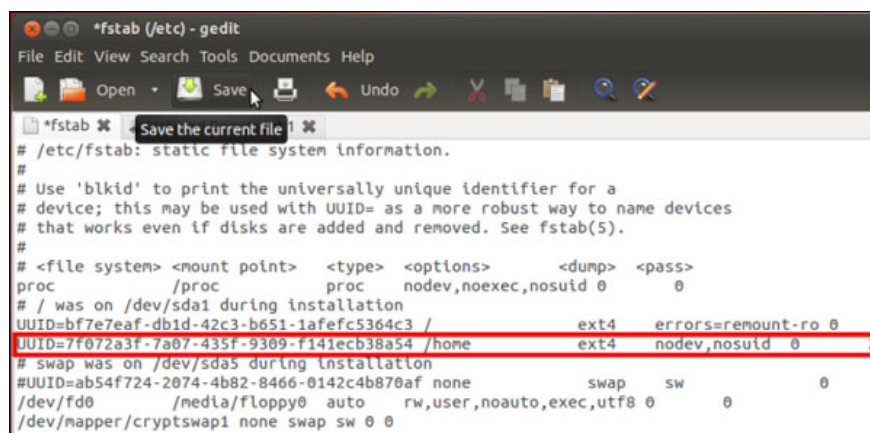
```
sudo cp / etc / fstab /fstab.backup
```

Next, enter the following command to open the fstab file in gedit. You can also use another text editor if you want.

```
gksu gedit / etc / fstab
```

Add the following text to the fstab file on a new line, replacing '_____' with the new master UUID from the sudo blkid statement on:

```
UUID = _____ / home ext4 nodev, nosuid 0 2
```



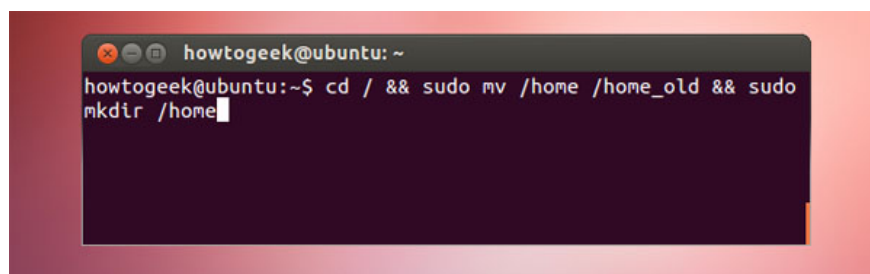
```
*fstab (/etc) - gedit
File Edit View Search Tools Documents Help
Open Save Undo
*fstab * Save the current file !
# /etc/fstab: static file system information.
#
# Use 'blkid' to print the universally unique identifier for a
# device; this may be used with UUID= as a more robust way to name devices
# that works even if disks are added and removed. See fstab(5).
#
# <file system> <mount point> <type> <options> <dump> <pass>
proc /proc proc nodev,noexec,nosuid 0 0
# / was on /dev/sda1 during installation
UUID=bf7e7eaf-dbid-42c3-b651-1afefc5364c3 / ext4 errors=remount-ro 0
UUID=7f072a3f-7a07-435f-9309-f141ecb38a54 /home ext4 nodev,nosuid 0 2
# swap was on /dev/sda5 during installation
#UUID=ab54f724-2074-4b82-8466-0142c4b870af none swap sw 0
/dev/fd0 /media/floppy0 auto rw,user,noauto,exec,utf8 0 0
/dev/mapper/cryptswap1 none swap sw 0 0
```

Save the file after adding the line.

Step 5: Move the home directory location and reboot

From the command prompt, enter the following command to move the current home directory to a reserved location and create another new, empty home directory for the new partition to populate:

```
cd / && sudo mv / home / home_old && sudo mkdir / home
```



```
howtogeek@ubuntu: ~
howtogeek@ubuntu:~$ cd / && sudo mv /home /home_old && sudo
mkdir /home
```

Restart the computer after running this command. Can restart with the command:

```
sudo shutdown -r now
```

After restarting the computer, you can log in normally. Ubuntu now uses separate master partitions. After making sure everything is fine and you still have all the files in the / home directory, you can remove the / home_old folder to free up memory:

```
sudo rm -rf /home_old
```

You finished reading the article "**Instructions for creating a master partition in Ubuntu**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.