



VMWare – Using virtual floppies (118)

There are times when using VM's that you need to use a floppy disk. This Howto shows how to make a virtual blank floppy disk, format it, remove it, and insert it again.

Requirements:

- Any VM you have created. A RH9 VM is used as an example in this Howto.
- VMWare Server 1.05 or higher
 <u>http://www.vmware.com/products/server/</u>

Make a blank virtual floppy (named rescue.flp)

• Startup the VM



- Right click on small floppy icon in lower right of the VM window
- On pop-up menu, select <u>E</u>dit...

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<pre>Disk /dev/sda: 5368 MB, 536870 255 heads, 63 sectors/track, 6 Units = cylinders of 16065 * 5 Device Boot Start /dev/sda1 * 1 /dev/sda2 14 /dev/sda3 588 [root@trouble root]#</pre>	Device status ✓ Connected ✓ Connect at power gn Connection ○ Use ghysical drive: ▲: ✓ ○ Use floppy image: □ Create Browse	
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- Select Use floppy image:
- Click Create button



• Type rescue.flp into File name field

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Click Open



Click OK

Format the floppy and put an ext2 file system on it.

[root@trouble root]# fdformat /dev/fd0 Double-sided, 80 tracks, 18 sec/track. Total capacity 1440 kB. Formatting ... done Verifying ... done [root@trouble root]# mkfs -t ext2 -L /rescue /dev/fd0 mke2fs 1.32 (09-Nov-2002) Filesystem label=/rescue OS type: Linux Block size=1024 (log=0) Fragment size=1024 (log=0) 184 inodes, 1440 blocks 72 blocks (5.00%) reserved for the super user First data block=1 1 block group 8192 blocks per group, 8192 fragments per group 184 inodes per group Writing inode tables: done

Writing superblocks and filesystem accounting information: done

This filesystem will be automatically checked every 25 mounts or 180 days, whichever comes first. Use tune2fs -c or -i to override. [root@trouble root]#

To "Remove" the floppy from drive

• Right click on little floppy icon



• Select Edit...

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- Remove checks from <u>Connected</u> and Connect at power <u>on</u> options
- Click OK

To "insert" the floppy back into the drive

• Right click on the little floppy icon and select Edit...



- Keep the current floppy image or browse to a different one. In this example we are using rescue.flp
- Check <u>Connected</u> and Connect at power on
- Make sure image is still rescue.flp
- Click OK