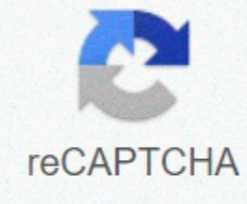




I'm not robot



Continue

## Vmware disk manager

Content Previous Next Using VMware Virtual Disk Manager VMware Virtual Disk Manager is a GSX server tool that allows you to create, manage and modify virtual disk files from a command line or through scripts. One of the main features is the ability to increase the virtual disk so that its maximum capacity is higher than it was when you created it. This way, if you need more disk space on a particular virtual drive, but you don't want to add another virtual disk or use ghost software to transfer data on a virtual drive to a larger virtual disk, you can simply change the maximum disk size. This is something you can't do with physical hard drives. Another feature allows you to change whether the entire virtual disk space is pre-filled or ingrown, and whether the virtual disk is stored in a single file or divided into 2GB files. For example, you might find that you have pre-assigned all disk space to a virtual disk, but you need to recover some hard disk space on the resource server. You can convert a pre-filled virtual drive to an ingrown disk and remove the original virtual disk file. The new virtual disk is large enough to contain all the data on the original virtual disk. The virtual disk is growing as you add data to it, as if you never pre-deployed disk space when you created a virtual disk. These features and the ability to use scripts to automate virtual disk management have so far not been possible with VMware products. You can use Virtual Disk Manager to: Automate virtual disk management with scripts. Create virtual disks that are not associated with a specific virtual machine that will be used, such as templates. Switch between the virtual disk type pre-staggered to the growth or vice versa. When you change the disk type to grow, some space on the virtual disk is regenerated. You can reduce the virtual disk to recover even more disk space. Expand the size of the virtual disk to be larger than the specified size when you created it. Defragment virtual disks. Prepare and compress virtual disks without power on a virtual machine (Windows hosts only). Rename and move virtual drives. You can use the virtual disk driver with virtual drives created using the VMware GSX server, VMware Workstation, and VMware VirtualCenter (provided that the virtual disk was created on a GSX server resource leak managed by VirtualCenter). Virtual Disk Manager cannot be used to create physical (raw) drives. Physical disks cannot be used on either a virtual disk manager or a GSX server. The following sections provide more information about Virtual Disk Manager: Running VMware Virtual Disk Manager Utility for Decreasing Virtual Disk Drives with VMware Virtual Disk Manager Examples Using VMware Virtual Disk Manager VMware Disk Manager is a VMware Workstation tool that allows you to create, manage, and modify virtual disk files from a command line or script. One of the main features is the ability to enlarge the virtual disk to make its capacity is higher than it was when you created it. This way, if you need more disk space on a particular virtual machine, but you don't want to add another virtual disk or use ghost software to move data on a virtual drive to a larger virtual disk, you can change the maximum size of the virtual drive. This is something you can't do with physical hard drives. Another feature allows you to change the types of discs. When you create a virtual machine, you specify how disk space is distributed. You can choose one of the following: All space on the virtual disk is distributed in advance. This is consistent with what Virtual Disk Manager calls the type of pre-staggered disk. The space for the virtual disk starts at a low level and grows as much as you need. This is in line with what Virtual Disk Manager calls an increased disk type. With Virtual Disk Manager, you can change whether the virtual disk type is pre-or ingrown and whether the virtual disk is stored in a single file or divided into 2GB files. For example, you might have allocated all disk space to a virtual disk, and then learn how to recover some hard disk space on this resource computer. You can convert a pre-located virtual disk to an on-screen drive, and then remove the original virtual disk file. The new virtual disk is large enough to contain all the data on the original virtual disk. The virtual disk increases when you add data to it. These features and the ability to use scripts to automate virtual disk management have been added to VMware Workstation version 4.5.2. You can use Virtual Disk Manager for the following tasks: Automate virtual disk management with scripts. Create virtual disks that are not associated with a specific virtual machine that will be used, such as templates. Switch between the virtual disk type pre-staggered to the growth or vice versa. When you change the disk type to grow, you can recover some space on the virtual disk. You can reduce the virtual disk to recover even more disk space. Expand the size of the virtual disk to be larger than the specified size when you created it. Defragment virtual disks. Prepare and collapse virtual disks without power on the virtual machine. (Windows hosts only.) You can use the virtual disk driver with virtual drives created using the VMware GSX server, VMware Workstation, and VMware VirtualCenter (provided that the virtual disk was created on a GSX server resource leak managed by VirtualCenter). Virtual Disk Manager cannot be used to create physical (raw) drives. Virtual Disk Manager or workstation cannot rotate physical disks. For more information about using Virtual Disk Manager, read the following sections: Prev Contents Last Next features | Documents | Knowledge Base | Discussion Forums Prev Content Last Other Examples VMware Virtual Disk Manager These examples illustrate how to use the virtual disk driver. You run Virtual Disk Manager from a command prompt. Create a virtual drive to create a new virtual drive, use a command such as: vmware-vdiskmanager -c -t 0-s 40GB -a ide myDisk.vmdk This creates a 40GB IDE virtual drive named myDisk.vmdk. The virtual disk is located in one .vmdk file. Disk space is not pre-filled. Convert a virtual disk To convert a virtual drive from pre-saved to a growth, use a command such as vmware-vdiskmanager -r sourceDisk.vmdk -t 0 targetDisk.vmdk This converts the drive from the original pre-reallocated type to an ingrown virtual disk consisting of one virtual disk file. The virtual disk space is no longer predefined, and Virtual Disk Manager recovers some disk space on the virtual disk, so it is only as large as the data on it. Expand the size of an existing virtual disk To expand the size of the virtual disk, use a command such as vmware-vdiskmanager -x 40GB myDisk.vmdk This increases the maximum virtual disk capacity to 40GB. Rename a virtual disk To rename a virtual disk, first remove it from any virtual machine that contains the disk (select VM > Settings > &lt;virtualdisk>, and then click Uninstall). Then use the following steps: vmware-vdiskmanager -n myDisk.vmdk myNewDisk.vmdk To rename the drive and locate it in another directory, use: vmware-vdiskmanager -nDisk my.vmdk .. \&lt;new-path>\myNewDisk.vmdk Note: The paths used in these examples assume the Windows host. To find the drive in another directory but keep the same name, use: vmware-vdiskmanager -n myDisk.vmdk .. \&lt;new-path>\myDisk.vmdk Rename or move a virtual disk, add it back to all virtual machines that use it. Select VM >, click Add, and then follow the wizard to add this existing virtual drive. To defragment a virtual disk, use a command such as vmware-vdiskmanager -d myDisk.vmdk To defragment a virtual disk, use a command such as vmware-vdiskmanager -d myDisk.vmdk To defragment a virtual disk if you have created a virtual disk. The actual disk cannot be defragmented. For disk defragmentation, see Discuss the effects of disk defragmentation disk behavior. Preparing a virtual disk for shrinkage Before you shrink a virtual disk, you must prepare each volume of the disk (for example, C: or D:) decrease in the risk of decline. To prepare a volume, it must be a Windows host. First you need to connect the volume. To connect the volume, use the VMware DiskMount utility, available for free download from the VMware website. For more information about downloading and using VMware DiskMount, see the VMware DiskMount user guide available from the VMware website www.vmware.com/pdf/VMwareDiskMount.pdf. VMware DiskMount Utility is available for free download from www.vmware.com/download/ws#utilities. VMware DiskMount installs individual volumes on the virtual disk. For best results when you shrink a virtual disk, connect all volumes and reduce them. After you install a virtual disk volume, use Virtual Disk Manager to prepare&lt;new-path>&lt;/new-path>&lt;/virtualdisk>&lt;/virtualdisk> the disc decreases. To prepare the volume installed as M: the disk decreases, use the following command: vmware-vdiskmanager -p M: When the preparations are finished, unscrew the volume. Repeat this process for each virtual disk volume. After you prepare all descending volumes, you can reduce the virtual disk. Virtual disk shrinking To reduce the virtual disk, it must be a Windows host. Before you shrink a virtual disk, make sure that you prepare all the volumes on the virtual disk for shrinking. Then use a command such as: vmware-vdiskmanager -k myDisk.vmdk Remember that you can not reduce the virtual disk if you are allocated all disk space when you create a virtual disk. You cannot collapse a physical disk. If the virtual disk contains snapshots, you cannot minimize the virtual disk. You must delete all snapshots before you can shrink the virtual disk. Prev Content Last Next