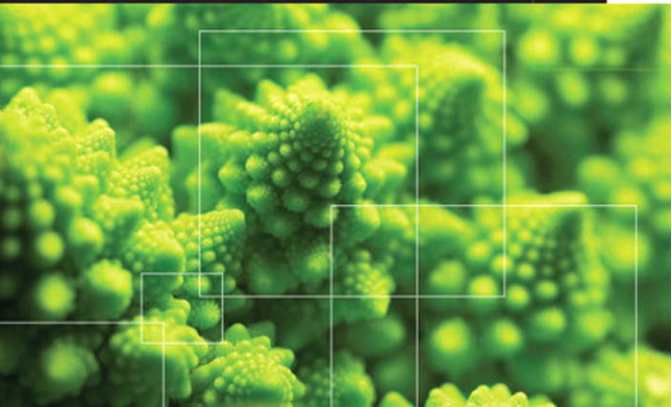


Oracle Solaris 11

System Administration

Bill Calkins



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Thank you to my family for putting up with the time I spend writing. Although I was there physically, I was away most of the time mentally. Writing this book took away valuable family time, and I will try to make it up now that I'm finally finished (writing, that is).

Kids, it's ok to come into my office and play your games again!

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Preface

This book covers all of the topics necessary to effectively install and administer an Oracle Solaris 11 system. When used as a study guide, this book will save you a great deal of time and effort searching for information you will need to administer Oracle Solaris 11 on SPARC and x86-based systems. This book covers each topic in enough detail for inexperienced administrators to learn about Oracle Solaris 11 and apply the knowledge to real-life scenarios. Experienced readers will find the material complete and concise, making it a valuable reference for everyday tasks. Drawing from my years of experience as a senior Oracle Solaris administrator and consultant, you'll find new ideas and see some different approaches to system administration that probably were not covered in your Oracle Solaris administration training courses.

You might be familiar with my Oracle Solaris certification training guides and exam prep books that have been published over the past 15 years. I am a Solaris Subject Matter Expert for Oracle. I participate in the development of the Oracle Solaris 11 certification exams, and I have made certain that the topics covered on the exam are covered in this book. But, rather than stopping at simply an exam prep book, I have gone to great effort to ensure that all tasks that you need to perform are covered beyond what is simply required to pass the exam.

Experienced administrators will find many welcome enhancements in Oracle Solaris 11, but they will also find that Oracle Solaris 11 is vastly different from previous versions of the operating system. Oracle has added new features and, in some cases, has completely redesigned some of the functions you may have used on a

daily basis. To eliminate the frustration of learning a new environment, I describe new solutions for performing familiar tasks.

Welcome to the Oracle Solaris 11 community, and don't forget to visit my blog at <http://www.unixed.com/blog> where I answer your questions and discuss various topics related to Oracle Solaris administration.

What's New in Oracle Solaris 11

Oracle Solaris 11 was first introduced in November 2010 as Oracle Solaris 11 Express. With Oracle Solaris 11 Express, Oracle provided a fully tested, fully supported, production-ready package that allowed customers to have access to the latest technology and hundreds of new features. Most administrators used Oracle Solaris 11 Express to test the new features and to provide feedback to the manufacturer.

The first production release of Oracle Solaris 11 was made available in November 2011 and is referred to as Oracle Solaris 11 11/11. In October 2012, Oracle introduced Oracle Solaris 11.1, the first major release of Oracle Solaris 11. This book covers features found in both versions of Oracle Solaris 11. For those of you currently running Oracle Solaris 10, you may be wondering, "What are the real benefits of moving to Oracle Solaris 11?" Throughout this book, I provide unbiased coverage of each feature to help you make an informed decision on the benefits of moving to Oracle Solaris 11.

Chapter 1 describes how to install the Oracle Solaris 11 operating system using the Live Media and text installers, and I guide you through each step of the installation process. During the installation, I help you make decisions that will affect the final installation and help you understand which configuration options may or may not be recommended for a secure production environment.

Chapter 2 discusses the new Image Packaging System (IPS). This new method of installing and updating software packages eliminates the traditional software package and patching commands that many administrators have used for years. IPS can be a complex and confusing topic, and I have created many real-life examples to guide you through the complete software lifecycle, including creating and maintaining an up-to-date IPS repository, installing and managing software packages, and using boot environments when updating the operating system.

Chapter 3 details the entire boot process on both the SPARC and x86 platforms. Where many textbooks skip the hardware-level discussion, I cover everything from powering on the server to accessing the console through the ALOM and ILOM interface and monitoring hardware faults through the fault management architecture. I describe the OpenBoot and GRUB2 environments in detail. The entire boot process, including managing multiple boot environments (BEs), booting a BE, loading the

kernel, specifying run levels and milestones, and starting the Service Management Facility (SMF), is described in detail. I am aware that most problems are encountered during the boot process, and I have made an effort to describe every scenario I have encountered on both the SPARC and x86 platforms. You'll also gain a complete understanding of kernel tunables, SMF, and services. You'll learn how to create and manage custom SMF profiles and manifests. You'll learn about managing system messages using the new `rsyslog` feature and the legacy `syslog` facility.

Chapter 4 describes the hardware components and begins with attaching new hardware, identifying hardware components, configuring device drivers, and configuring and formatting storage devices.

ZFS storage pools and file systems are the topic of Chapter 5. You'll find more information on ZFS in this chapter than in entire books that have been published on the topic. I describe key concepts in creating redundant and nonredundant storage pools. I go on to describe how to create ZFS file systems, manage properties to control file system characteristics, encrypt file systems, and back up and restore ZFS file systems. I use examples to describe problems and failures with storage components and finally ZFS monitoring, troubleshooting, and recovery techniques that I have used in production environments.

Chapter 6 discusses the virtualization environment, Oracle Solaris zones. You'll be guided through the creation of the different types of non-global and immutable zones. You'll learn how to boot and manage zones, set resources on a zone, delegate ZFS storage, and monitor, clone, back up, and recover zones.

In Chapter 7, I describe techniques used to harden an Oracle Solaris system beginning with securing and monitoring user accounts, controlling system and file access, delegating administrative tasks, and controlling network security.

Chapter 8 describes how to monitor and manage system processes on a multiprocessor system. You'll also learn how to manage and configure core files and crash dumps.

Chapter 9 is a discussion of the Oracle Solaris 11 network environment. Readers with experience on previous versions of Oracle Solaris will appreciate the detail and the step-by-step examples provided in the explanation of the complex topic of virtual networking. I describe how to configure reactive and fixed network configurations. I outline the new methods used to configure network parameters and services. I illustrate how to create a virtual network between non-global zones. And I describe network monitoring and troubleshooting techniques that I use in production environments.

Chapter 10 describes Network File Systems (NFS) and begins with a thorough explanation of NFS and where NFS is used in a production environment. Again, for those with experience on previous versions of Oracle Solaris, I detail how to configure NFS in Oracle Solaris 11. Using step-by-step examples, I explain the new process of sharing file systems on Oracle Solaris 11/11 and how it changed again in Oracle Solaris 11.1. You'll learn how to mount and manage NFS file systems manually and using AutoFS. I conclude the chapter with techniques I use for monitoring and troubleshooting NFS.

Enjoy the book, keep it close by, and may the material in this book help you better your skills, enhance your career, and achieve your goals.

Conventions Used in This Book

Commands: In the steps and examples, the commands you type are displayed in a special monospaced bold font.

```
# ls -l<cr>
```

<cr> indicates pressing the Enter/Return key.

The use of the hash symbol (#), dollar sign (\$) or ok, when prefixed to the command, indicates the system prompt as shown in the examples:

```
ok boot<cr>
# ls -l<cr>
$ ls -l<cr>
```

The prompt is not to be typed in as part of the command syntax.

Arguments and Options—In command syntax, command options and arguments are enclosed in < >. (The italicized words within the < > symbols stand for what you will actually type. Don't type the "< >.")

```
# ls -l <directoryname><cr>
```

Code Continuation Character—When a line of code is too long to fit on one line, it is broken and continued to the next line. The continuation is preceded by a backslash (\), for example:

```
# useradd -u 3000 -g other -d /export/home/bcalkins -m -s /usr/bin/bash \
-c "Bill Calkins, ext. 2345" bcalkins<cr>
```

The backslash is not to be typed as part of the command syntax. Type the command as one continuous line. When the text gets to the end of the line, it will automatically wrap to the next line.

Commands are case sensitive in Oracle Solaris, so make sure you use upper and lowercase as specified. Make sure that you use spaces, hyphens (-), double quotes (") and single quotes (') exactly as indicated in the examples that are provided.

Audience

This book is designed for anyone who has a basic understanding of UNIX or Linux and wants to learn more about administering an Oracle Solaris 11 system. Whether or not you plan to become certified, this book is the starting point to becoming an Oracle Solaris system administrator. It contains the same training material that I use in my Oracle Solaris System Administration classes. This book covers the basic as well as the advanced system administration topics you need to know before you begin administering the Oracle Solaris 11 operating system. The goal was to present the material in an easy-to-follow format, with text that is easy to read and understand. The only prerequisite is that you have used UNIX or Linux, you have attended a fundamental UNIX or Linux class for users, or you have studied equivalent material so that you understand basic UNIX commands and syntax. Before you begin administering Oracle Solaris, it's important that you have actually used UNIX or Linux.

This book is also intended for experienced system administrators who want to become certified, update their current Oracle Solaris certification, or simply learn about the Oracle Solaris 11 operating environment.

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Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Greg Doench and Prentice Hall for giving me the opportunity to write another book on Oracle Solaris. I appreciate that you recognize the value in having a single author write an entire technical book to keep the material consistent and smooth. I also thank them for letting me take my time to get it right. Oracle Solaris 11 has gone through many changes since the initial release. At the last minute, I wanted to make sure that this book was up to date with Oracle Solaris 11.1, which meant delaying the release of this book from its original publication date.

I also want to thank John Philcox once again for coming on board as a technical editor. John has worked on most of my books, and we are of the same mind when it comes to publishing an Oracle Solaris textbook. I look forward to working with you again, John.

I also want to thank Oracle for allowing me to be part of the certification team and actively involved in the creation of the Oracle Solaris 11 certification exams. Oracle is very particular with the contractors with whom they work, and I feel privileged that they consider me as part of their team of experts.

That's it! I don't want to bore you with a long list of names when it's John, myself, and the team of editors at Prentice Hall who put this book together. A small, tight group is an efficient and successful group, and I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of you who edited the text, laid out the pages, and shipped the books. My efforts would be lost if it weren't for your hard work.

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About the Author

About the Author

Bill Calkins is an Oracle Solaris 11 Certified Professional, works as a Solaris Subject Matter Expert for Oracle Corporation, and participates in the development of the Oracle Solaris 11 certification exams. Bill is the owner and president of UnixEd and Pyramid Consulting Inc., IT training and consulting firms located near Grand Rapids, Michigan, specializing in the implementation and administration of UNIX, Linux, and Microsoft Windows–based systems. He has more than twenty years of experience in UNIX system administration, consulting, and training at more than 300 companies. Bill is known worldwide for the Oracle Solaris textbooks he’s authored, which have always been best sellers and used by universities and training organizations worldwide. It began with the *Oracle Solaris 2.6 Training Guide* in 1999 and subsequent books for Oracle Solaris 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Many of you have written with your success stories, suggestions, and comments. Your suggestions are always welcome and are what keep making these textbooks better with each new release. Drop me a note at wcalkins@unixed.com, introduce yourself, and tell me what you think.

About the Technical Editor

John Philcox currently works as a Technical Specialist at Atos IT Services UK. He is based in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, in the United Kingdom and specializes in

UNIX systems and networks. He has more than 30 years' experience in IT, 25 of those with the SunOS and Oracle Solaris environments. He is a certified Oracle Solaris system and network administrator and has worked in a number of large, multi-vendor networks in both the public and private sectors of business.

John was the author of *Solaris System Management*, published by New Riders, and *Solaris 9 Network Administrator Certification (Exam Cram 2)*, published by QUE Publishing. John has acted as technical editor or contributing author to most of Bill Calkins' books.

Administering Storage Devices

It's important that you understand how Oracle Solaris views the disk drives and various other hardware components on your system. In particular, you need to understand how the storage devices are configured and named before you can create a file system on them or install the Oracle Solaris operating environment.

Device management in the Oracle Solaris 11 environment includes adding and removing from system peripheral devices such as tape drives, printers, and disk drives. Device management sometimes also involves adding a third-party device driver to support a device if the device driver is not available in Oracle's distribution of the Oracle Solaris operating environment.

System administrators need to know how to specify device names when using commands to manage disks, file systems, and other devices. This chapter describes disk device management in detail. It also describes disk device naming conventions as well as adding, configuring, and displaying information about disk devices attached to your system.

Device Drivers

A computer typically uses a wide range of peripheral and mass-storage devices such as a serial attached SCSI disk drive, a keyboard, a mouse, and some kind of magnetic backup medium. Other commonly used devices include CD/DVD-ROM drives, printers, and various USB devices. Oracle Solaris communicates with peripheral devices through device files or drivers. A "device driver" is a low-level program that

allows the kernel to communicate with a specific piece of hardware. The driver serves as the OS's "interpreter" for that piece of hardware. Before Oracle Solaris can communicate with a device, the device must have a device driver.

When a system is started for the first time, the kernel creates a device hierarchy to represent all of the devices connected to the system. This is the autoconfiguration process, which is described later in this chapter. If a driver is not loaded for a particular peripheral device, that device is not functional. In Oracle Solaris, each disk device is described in three ways, using three distinct naming conventions:

- **Physical device name:** Represents the full device pathname in the device information hierarchy
- **Instance name:** Represents the kernel's abbreviation name for every possible device on the system
- **Logical device name:** Used by system administrators with most file system commands to refer to devices

System administrators need to understand these device names when using commands to manage disks and file systems. We discuss these device names throughout this chapter.

Physical Device Name

Before the OS is loaded, the system locates a particular device through the device tree, also called the full device pathname. Full device pathnames are described in the "PROM Device Tree (Full Device Pathnames)" section of Chapter 3, "Boot and Shutdown Procedures for SPARC and x86-Based Systems." After the kernel is loaded, however, a device is located by its physical device pathname. Physical device names represent the full device pathname for a device. Note that the two names have the same structure. For example, the full device pathname for a SCSI disk at target 0 on a SunFire T2000 system is as follows:

```
/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/disk@0
```

SAS Disk Drives

SCSI drives come in two types: parallel and serial. The serial attached SCSI (SAS) drive delivers better performance than its parallel predecessor. Both drives show up as SCSI drives in the OS.

Intel-based systems commonly use IDE or Serial AT Attachment (SATA) disk drives. On the x86 platform, the SATA disk (target 0) looks like this:

```
/pci@0,0/pci8086,2829@d/disk@0,0
```

Now let's look at the corresponding physical device name from the OS level. Use the `dmesg` command, described later in this section, to obtain information about devices connected to your system. By viewing information displayed by the `dmesg` command, you'll receive the following information about the SunFire T2000's SAS disk 0:

```
# dmesg |grep scsi<cr>
Jan 23 16:02:42 server rootnex: [ID 349649 kern.info] scsi_vhci0 at root
Jan 23 16:02:42 server genunix: [ID 936769 kern.info] scsi_vhci0 is /scsi_vhci
Jan 23 16:02:45 server scsi: [ID 583861 kern.info] sd0 at ahci0: target 0 lun 0
Jan 23 16:02:45 server scsi: [ID 583861 kern.info] sd1 at ahci0: target 1 lun 0
Jan 23 16:03:04 server rootnex: [ID 349649 kern.info] iscsi0 at root
Jan 23 16:03:04 server genunix: [ID 936769 kern.info] iscsi0 is /iscsi
```

This same information is also available in the `/var/adm/messages` file.

As you can see, the physical device name listed above and the full device name seen at the OpenBoot PROM are the same. The difference is that the full device pathname is simply a path to a particular device. The physical device is the actual driver used by Oracle Solaris to access that device from the OS.

Physical device files are found in the `/devices` directory. The content of the `/devices` directory is controlled by the `devfs` file system. The entries in the `/devices` directory dynamically represent the current state of accessible devices in the kernel and require no administration. New device entries are added when the devices are detected and added to the kernel. The physical device files for SAS disks 0 and 1 connected to the primary SCSI controller would be

```
/devices/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@0,0:<#>
/devices/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@1,0:<#>
```

for the block device and

```
/devices/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@0,0:<#>,raw
/devices/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@1,0:<#>,raw
```

for the character (raw) device, where `<#>` is a letter representing the disk slice. Block and character devices are described later in this chapter in the section titled "Block and Raw Devices."

Table 4-1 Device Information Commands

Command	Description
<code>prtconf</code>	The <code>prtconf</code> command displays system configuration information, including the total amount of memory and the device configuration, as described by the system's hierarchy. This useful tool verifies whether a device has been seen by the system.
<code>sysdef</code>	The <code>sysdef</code> command displays device configuration information, including system hardware, pseudo devices, loadable modules, and selected kernel parameters.
<code>dmesg</code>	The <code>dmesg</code> command displays system diagnostic messages as well as a list of devices attached to the system since the most recent restart.
<code>format</code>	The <code>format</code> command displays both physical and logical device names for all available disks.

The system commands used to provide information about physical devices are described in Table 4-1.

prtconf Output

The output produced by the `prtconf` command can vary depending on the version of the system's PROM.

Type the `prtconf` command:

```
# prtconf<cr>
System Configuration: Oracle Corporation sun4v
Memory size: 3968 Megabytes
System Peripherals (Software Nodes):

SUNW,Sun-Fire-T200
  scsi_vhci, instance #0
  packages (driver not attached)
    SUNW,builtin-drivers (driver not attached)
    deblocker (driver not attached)
    disk-label (driver not attached)
<Output has been truncated.>
```

Use the `-v` option to display detailed information about devices.

The `sysdef` command can also be used to list information about hardware devices, pseudo devices, system devices, loadable modules, and selected kernel tunable parameters as follows:

```
# sysdef<cr>
*
* Hostid
```

```

*
* 8510e818
*
* sun4v Configuration
*
*
* Devices
*
scsi_vhci, instance #0
packages (driver not attached)
    SUNW,builtin-drivers (driver not attached)
    deblocker (driver not attached)
    disk-label (driver not attached)
    terminal-emulator (driver not attached)
    dropins (driver not attached)
    SUNW,asr (driver not attached)
    kbd-translator (driver not attached)
    obp-tftp (driver not attached)
    zfs-file-system (driver not attached)

*Output has been truncated.
* System Configuration
*
  swap files
swapfile          dev      swaplo  blocks free
/dev/zvol/dsk/rpool/swap 228,2    16 2097136 2097136
*
* Tunable Parameters
*
81469440          maximum memory allowed in buffer cache (bufhwm)
  30000           maximum number of processes (v.v_proc)
   99             maximum global priority in sys class (MAXCLSYSPRI)
29995            maximum processes per user id (v.v_maxup)
  30              auto update time limit in seconds (NAUTOUP)
  25              page stealing low water mark (GPGSLO)
  1               fsflush run rate (FSFLUSHR)
  25              minimum resident memory for avoiding deadlock (MINARMEM)
*Output has been truncated

```

Use the output of the `prtconf` command to identify which disk, tape, and CD/DVD-ROM devices are connected to the system. As shown in the preceding `prtconf` and `sysdef` examples, some devices display the driver not attached message next to the device instance. This message does not always mean that a driver is unavailable for this device. It means that no driver is currently attached to the device instance because there is no device at this node or the device is not in use. The OS automatically loads drivers when the device is accessed, and it unloads them when it is not in use.

The system determines which devices are attached to it at startup. This is why it is important to have all peripheral devices powered on at startup, even if they are not currently being used. During startup, the kernel configures itself dynamically, loading needed modules into memory. Device drivers are loaded when devices, such as disk and tape devices, are accessed for the first time. This process is called “auto-configuration” because all kernel modules are loaded automatically if needed. As described in Chapter 3, the system administrator can customize the way in which kernel modules are loaded by modifying the `/etc/system` file.

Device Autoconfiguration

Autoconfiguration offers many advantages over the manual configuration method used in earlier versions of SunOS, in which device drivers were manually added to the kernel, the kernel was recompiled, and the system had to be restarted. Now, with autoconfiguration, the administrator simply connects the new device to the system and performs a reconfiguration startup. To perform a reconfiguration startup, follow these steps:

1. Create the `/reconfigure` file with the following command:

```
# touch /reconfigure<cr>
```

The `/reconfigure` file causes the Oracle Solaris software to check for the presence of any newly installed devices the next time you turn on or start up your system.

2. Shut down the system using the shutdown procedure described in Chapter 3. If you need to connect the device, turn off power to the system and all peripherals after Oracle Solaris has been properly shut down.
3. After the new device is connected, restore power to the peripherals first and then to the system. Verify that the peripheral device has been added by attempting to access it.

Automatic Removal of `/reconfigure`

The file named `/reconfigure` automatically gets removed during the bootup process.

An optional method of performing a reconfiguration startup is to type “boot -r” at the OpenBoot prompt.

On an x86-based system, perform a reconfiguration reboot by editing the `boot` command in the GRUB menu as described in Chapter 3.

Specify a Reconfiguration Reboot

As root, you can also issue the `reboot -- -r` command from the shell prompt. The `-- -r` passes the `-r` to the boot command.

During a reconfiguration restart, a device hierarchy is created in the `/devices` file system to represent the devices connected to the system. The kernel uses this to associate drivers with their appropriate devices.

Autoconfiguration offers the following benefits:

- Main memory is used more efficiently because modules are loaded as needed.
- There is no need to reconfigure the kernel if new devices are added to the system. When you add devices such as disks or tape drives other than USB and hot-pluggable devices, the system needs to be shut down before you connect the hardware so that no damage is done to the electrical components.
- Drivers can be loaded and tested without having to rebuild the kernel and restart the system.

devfsadm

Another option used to automatically configure devices on systems that must remain running at all times, and one that does not require a reboot, is the `devfsadm` command.

Occasionally, you might install a new device for which Oracle Solaris does not have a supporting device driver. Always check with the manufacturer to make sure any device you plan to add to your system has a supported device driver. If a driver is not included with the standard Oracle Solaris release, the manufacturer should provide the software needed for the device to be properly installed, maintained, and administered.

USB Removable Devices

USB devices were developed to provide a method to attach peripheral devices such as keyboards, printers, cameras, and disk drives using a common connector and interface. Furthermore, USB devices are “hot-pluggable,” which means they can be connected or disconnected while the system is running. The OS automatically detects when a USB device has been connected and automatically configures the operating environment to make it available.

The Oracle Solaris 11 operating environment supports USB devices. When hot-plugging a USB device, the device is immediately displayed in the device hierarchy. For example, a full device pathname for a USB thumb drive connected to a SunFire T2000 system would appear as follows:

```
/devices/pci@7c0/pci@0/pci@1/pci@0/usb@6/hub@1/storage@2/disk@0,0
```

A printer would look like this:

```
/pci@1f,4000/usb@5/hub@3/printer@1
```

The steps to add a USB mass storage device are as follows:

1. Insert a USB thumb drive into the USB port on your server. For this example, the device already contains a file system.
2. Verify that the USB device is mounted by entering the `rmformat` command as follows:

```
# rmformat<cr>
Two devices are listed as follows:
Looking for devices ...
  1. Logical Node: /dev/rdisk/c3t0d0s2
     Physical Node: /pci@7c0/pci@0/pci@1/pci@0/ide@8/sd@0,0
     Connected Device: TEAC DW-224SL-R    1.0B
     Device Type: DVD Reader
     Bus: IDE
     Size: 525.9 MB
     Label: <None>
     Access permissions: Medium is not write protected.
  2. Logical Node: /dev/rdisk/c5t0d0s2
     Physical Node: /pci@7c0/pci@0/pci@1/pci@0/usb@6/hub@1/storage@2/disk@0,0
     Connected Device: Generic Flash Disk    8.07
     Device Type: Removable
     Bus: USB
     Size: 981.0 MB
     Label: <None>
     Access permissions: Medium is not write protected.
```

Note

If the device does not contain a file system, use the `rmformat` command to format the device. The `rmformat` command is described later in this section.

The first device listed is the removable DVD, and the second device listed is the removable USB thumb drive.

3. Verify that the device has been automatically mounted by typing

```
# mount<cr>
```

The mounted device is displayed as follows:

```
/media/NO NAME on /dev/dsk/c5t0d0s2:1 read/write/nosetuid/nodevices/rstchown/
hidden/nofoldcase/clamptime/noatime/timezone=18000/owner=0/group=0/mask=077/
dev=32c102a on Thu Jan 24 12:09:11 2013
```

4. The nickname for the mounted device can also be listed by typing

```
# rmmount -l<cr>
/dev/dsk/c5t0d0s2:1 rmdisk,rmdisk0,THUMBDRIVE,/media/THUMBDRIVE
/dev/dsk/c3t0d0s2 cdrom,cdrom0,cd,cd0,sr,sr0,Oracle_Solaris-11_1-Text-\
SPARC,/media/Oracle_Solaris-11_1-Text-SPARC
```

Notice the path to each device. Access the removable DVD media through this path:

```
/media/Oracle_Solaris-11_1-Text-SPARC
```

Access the USB thumb drive media through this path:

```
/media/THUMBDRIVE
```

The `rmformat` command is used to format, list, eject, partition, and protect removable rewritable media. If the USB device already has a file system, the device is automatically mounted. To unmount the device, type

```
# rmmount -u /dev/dsk/c5t0d0s2<cr>
/dev/dsk/c5t0d0s2 unmounted
```

To format the device, type

```
# rmformat -F quick /dev/rdisk/c5t0d0s2<cr>
Formatting will erase all the data on disk.
Do you want to continue? (y/n)y<cr>
```

The `rmformat` command has three formatting options:

1. `quick`: This option formats the media without certification or with limited certification of certain tracks on the media.
2. `long`: This option completely formats the media.
3. `force`: This option formats completely without user confirmation.

Create a file system on the device as follows:

```
# mkfs -F pcfs -o nofdisk,size=9800 /dev/rdisk/ c5t0d0s2<cr>
```

The `mkfs` command constructs a file system on a raw device. I specified `-F pcfs` to create a file allocation table (FAT) file system.

Be careful when removing USB devices. If the device is being used when it is disconnected, you will get I/O errors and possible data errors. When this happens, you'll need to plug the device back in, stop the application that is using the device, and then unplug the device.

USB mass storage devices and DVD-ROMs can be inserted and automatically mounted by using the removable media services. These services are started by default and can be enabled or disabled as follows.

To prevent removable volumes from automatically mounting, disable the `rmvolmgr` service as follows:

```
# svcadm disable rmvolmgr<cr>
```

To disable all of the volume management media services, disable the `dbus`, `hal`, and `rmvolmgr` services as follows:

```
# svcadm disable rmvolmgr<cr>
# svcadm disable dbus<cr>
# svcadm disable hal<cr>
```

Disabling the volume management services means that you would have to mount all media manually using the `mount` command.

Enable removable media services:

```
# svcadm enable rmvolmgr<cr>
# svcadm enable dbus<cr>
# svcadm enable hal<cr>
```

When disconnecting a USB device such as a USB thumb drive, eject the device as follows:

1. List the removable devices as follows:

```
# rmmount -l<cr>
/dev/dsk/c3t0d0s2 cdrom,cdrom0,cd,cd0,sr,sr0,Oracle_Solaris_Text_SPARC, \
/media/Oracle_Solaris_Text_SPARC
/dev/dsk/c5t0d0s2:1 rmdisk,rmdisk0,NO NAME the devices currently mounted:
```

2. Unmount the device as follows:

```
# rmmount -u rmdisk0<cr>
```

3. Eject the device as follows:

```
# eject rmdisk0<cr>
```

Instance Names

The instance name represents the kernel's abbreviated name for every possible device on the system. A few examples of instance names are

- `sd0`: The instance name for a SCSI disk
- `e1000g`: The instance name for a type of network interface

Instance names are mapped to a physical device name in the `/etc/path_to_inst` file. The following shows the contents of a `path_to_inst` file:

```
# more /etc/path_to_inst<cr>
#
#   Caution! This file contains critical kernel state
#
#   Caution! This file contains critical kernel state
#
"/fcoe" 0 "fcoe"
"/iscsi" 0 "iscsi"
"/pseudo" 0 "pseudo"
"/scsi_vhci" 0 "scsi_vhci"
"/options" 0 "options"
"/pci@780" 0 "px"
"/pci@780/pci@0" 0 "pcieb"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@1" 1 "pcieb"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@1/network@0" 0 "e1000g"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@1/network@0,1" 1 "e1000g"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@2" 2 "pcieb"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@8" 3 "pcieb"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9" 4 "pcieb"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0" 0 "mpt"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@0,0" 2 "sd"
"/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@1,0" 3 "sd"
... <output has been truncated> ...
```

Although instance names can be displayed using the commands `dmesg`, `sysdef`, and `prtconf`, the only command that shows the mapping of the instance name to the physical device name is the `dmesg` command. For example, you can determine the mapping of an instance name to a physical device name by looking at the `dmesg` output, as shown in the following example from a T2000 SPARC system:

```
Jan 24 12:31:02 solaris genunix: [ID 936769 kern.info] sd2 is\
/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@0,0
Jan 24 12:32:03 solaris genunix: [ID 936769 kern.info] sd3 is\
/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@1,0
```


In the first example, `sd2` is the instance name and `/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@0,0` is the physical device name. In the second example, `sd3` is the instance name and `/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@1,0` is the physical device name. After the instance name has been assigned to a device, it remains mapped to that device. To keep instance numbers consistent across restarts, the system records them in the `/etc/path_to_inst` file. This file is only read at startup, and it is updated by the `devfsadm` daemon described later in this section.

Devices already existing on a system are not rearranged when new devices are added, even if new devices are added to `pci` slots that are numerically lower than those occupied by existing devices. In other words, the `/etc/path_to_inst` file is appended to, not rewritten, when new devices are added.

It is generally not necessary for the system administrator to change the `path_to_inst` file because the system maintains it. The system administrator can, however, change the assignment of instance numbers by editing this file and doing a reconfiguration startup. However, any changes made in this file are lost if the `devfsadm` command is run before the system is restarted.

Resolving Problems with `/etc/path_to_inst`

If you can't start up from the startup disk because of a problem with the `/etc/path_to_inst` file, you should start up from the CD/DVD (`boot cdrom -s`) and remove the `/etc/path_to_inst` file from the startup disk. To do this, start up from the DVD using `boot cdrom -s` at the OpenBoot prompt. Use the `rm` command to remove the file named `/a/etc/path_to_inst`. The `path_to_inst` file will automatically be created the next time the system boots.

You can add new devices to a system without requiring a reboot. It's all handled by the `devfsadm` daemon that transparently builds the necessary configuration entries for those devices capable of notifying the kernel when the device is added (such as USB, FC-AL, disks, and so on). An example of when to use the `devfsadm` command would be if the system had been started but the power to the tape drive was not turned on. During startup, the system did not detect the device; therefore, its drivers were not installed.

To gain access to the device, you could halt the system, turn on power to the tape drive, and start the system back up, or you could simply turn on power to the tape drive and issue the following command at the command prompt:

```
# devfsadm<cr>
```

When used without any options, `devfsadm` will attempt to load every driver in the system and attach each driver to its respective device instances. You can restrict `devfsadm` to only look at specific devices using the `-c` option as follows:

```
# devfsadm -c tape<cr>
```

This restricts the `devfsadm` command to devices of class *tape*.

You can also use the `devfsadm` command to configure only the devices for a specific driver such as “*st*” by using the `-i` option as follows:

```
# devfsadm -i st<cr>
```

The `devfsadm` command will only configure the devices for the driver named “*st*.”

Major and Minor Device Numbers

Each device has a major and minor device number assigned to it. These numbers identify the proper device location and device driver to the kernel. This number is used by the OS to key into the proper device driver whenever a physical device file corresponding to one of the devices it manages is opened. The major device number maps to a device driver such as *sd*, *st*, or *e1000g*. The minor device number indicates the specific member within that class of devices. All devices managed by a given device driver contain a unique minor number. Some drivers of pseudo devices (software entities set up to look like devices) create new minor devices on demand. Together, the major and minor numbers uniquely define a device and its device driver.

Physical device files have a unique output when listed with the `ls -l` command, as shown in the following example:

```
# cd /devices/pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0<cr>
# ls -l<cr>
```

The system responds with the following:

```
total 4
drwxr-xr-x  2 root    sys      2 Jan 24 13:25 sd@0,0
brw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 16 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:a
crw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 16 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:a,raw
brw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 17 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:b
crw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 17 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:b,raw
brw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 18 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:c
crw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 18 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:c,raw
brw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 19 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:d
crw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 19 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:d,raw
brw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 20 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:e
crw-r----- 1 root    sys    203, 20 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:e,raw
```

continues

```
brw-r----- 1 root    sys   203, 21 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:f
crw-r----- 1 root    sys   203, 21 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:f,raw
brw-r----- 1 root    sys   203, 22 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:g
crw-r----- 1 root    sys   203, 22 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:g,raw
brw-r----- 1 root    sys   203, 23 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:h
crw-r----- 1 root    sys   203, 23 Jan 24 12:32 sd@0,0:h,raw ...
<output has been truncated> ...
```

This long listing includes columns showing major and minor numbers for each device. The `sd` driver manages all of the devices listed in the previous example that have a major number of 203. Minor numbers are listed after the comma.

During the process of building the `/devices` directory, major numbers are assigned based on the kernel module attached to the device. Each device is assigned a major device number by using the name-to-number mappings held in the `/etc/name_to_major` file. This file is maintained by the system and is undocumented. The following is a sample of the `/etc/name_to_major` file:

```
# more /etc/name_to_major<cr>
... <output has been truncated> ...
sckmdrv 199
scsa1394 200
scsa2usb 201
scsi_vhci 202
sd 203
sdplib 204
sdt 205
seeprom 206
ses 207
... <output has been truncated> ...
```

To create the minor device entries, the `devfsadm` daemon uses the information placed in the `dev_info` node by the device driver. Permissions and ownership information are kept in the `/etc/minor_perm` file.

Logical Device Names

The final stage of the autoconfiguration process involves the creation of the logical device name to reflect the new set of devices on the system. Both SPARC and x86 systems use logical device names, but they differ slightly on each platform. To see a list of logical device names for the disks connected to a SPARC system, execute a long listing on the `/dev/dsk` directory as follows:

```
# ls -l /dev/dsk<cr>
total 96
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root    root          54 Jan 21 07:59 clt0d0s0 ->\
.../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:a
```

```
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root    root          54 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s1 ->\
../../../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:b
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root    root          54 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s2 ->\
../../../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:c
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root    root          54 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s3 ->\
../../../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:d
... <output has been truncated> ...
```

On the second line of output from the `ls -l` command, notice that the logical device name `c1t0d0s0` is linked to the physical device name, as shown in the following:

```
../../../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:a
```

On SPARC systems, you'll see an eight-string logical device name (`c#t#d#s#`) for each disk slice that contains the following:

- **Controller number (c#):** Identifies the host bus adapter, which controls communications between the system and disk unit. The controller number is assigned in sequential order, such as `c0`, `c1`, `c2`, and so on.
- **Target number (t#):** Target numbers, such as `t0`, `t1`, `t2`, and `t3` correspond to a unique hardware address that is assigned to each disk, tape, or DVD-ROM. Some external disk drives have an address switch located on the rear panel. Some internal disks have address pins that are jumpered to assign that disk's target number.
- **Disk number (d#):** The disk number is also known as the logical unit number (LUN). This number reflects the number of disks at the target location. The disk number is always set to 0 on embedded SCSI controllers.
- **Slice number (s#):** A slice number ranging from 0 to 7.

On the x86 platform, IDE and SATA disk drives do not use target controllers. Device names of these types of disks represent the controller (`c3`), disk (`d#`), and slice (`s#`). Because IDE disks do not use target controllers, these disks use a `t#` value to represent the identity of the disks on its primary and secondary IDE buses. Target values on these systems are as follows:

- `t0`: Master device on the primary IDE bus
- `t1`: Slave device on the primary IDE bus
- `t2`: Master device on the secondary IDE bus
- `t3`: Slave device on the secondary IDE bus

The following is an example of IDE disks on an x86-based server:

```
# ls -l /dev/dsk<cr>
total 48
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 45 Jan 23 18:11 c0t0d0s0 ->\
../../../../devices/pci@1f,0/pci@1,1/ide@sd@0,0:a
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 45 Jan 23 18:11 c0t0d0s1 ->\
../../../../devices/pci@1f,0/pci@1,1/ide@sd@0,0:b
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 44 Jan 23 18:11 c1t1d0s0 ->\
../../../../devices/pci@1f,0/pci@1/scsi@8/sd@1,0:a
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 44 Jan 23 18:11 c1t1d0s1 ->\
../../../../devices/pci@1f,0/pci@1/scsi@8/sd@1,0:b
```

x86-based Oracle Solaris systems have a different disk-naming convention, but before describing the logical device name for a disk on an x86-based system, it's worth pointing out a fundamental difference between disk slicing on a SPARC system and disk slicing on an x86-based system. Disk partitioning on Oracle Solaris for the x86 platform has one more level than that of Oracle Solaris for SPARC. On Oracle Solaris for SPARC, slices and partitions are one and the same; on Oracle Solaris for x86, slices are “subpartitions” of a fixed disk (`fdisk`) partition table. This was done to allow Oracle Solaris to coexist with other x86-based OSs, such as for dual-boot configurations.

This difference in slicing brings some differences in the naming of disk devices on an x86-based system. Slices are created in the first partition on a drive and, for SCSI disks, are named the same as with Oracle Solaris for SPARC (`c#t#d0s#`). However, because slices are within an `fdisk` partition table, the x86 partitions have their own device names. The entire drive is named `c#t#d0p0`, and the `fdisk` partitions (maximum of 4) are `c#t#d0p1` through `c#t#d0p4`. To support the x86 environment, the `format` utility also has an added command called `fdisk` to deal with the `fdisk` partitions.

Oracle Solaris x86-based systems have 16 slices (numbered 0-15) versus 8 for SPARC. On the x86 system, slice 8 is used to hold boot code and contains the GRUB `stage1` program in sector 0, the disk label, the VTOC in sectors 1 and 2, and GRUB `stage2` program beginning at sector 50. GRUB is described in Chapter 3. Slice 8 also occupies the first cylinder (cylinder 0) of the `fdisk` partition.

On IDE and SATA disk drives, slice 9 is used for alternate sectors and contains blocks used to store bad block information. Higher slices are available for use but are not supported by `format` at this time, and the `format` utility will only allow you to modify slices 0–7. The major differences between the logical device names used on SPARC-based systems versus x86-based systems are as follows:

- c** is the controller number.
- t** is the SCSI target number.
- s** is the slice number ranging from 0 to 15.

p represents the `fdisk` partition (not slice partition). This number ranges from `p0` to `p4`. `p0` represents the entire disk.

d is the LUN or IDE drive number.

If an IDE drive is used, `d` is used to determine MASTER or SLAVE, and the `t` is not used for IDE drives. For example, two controllers are installed on an x86 PC:

c0 is an IDE controller.

c1 is a SCSI controller.

On an x86-based system, the following devices are listed in the `/dev/dsk` directory for a SATA disk, target 0:

```

c1t0d0p0      c1t0d0s1      c1t0d0s15     c1t0d0s7
c1t0d0p1      c1t0d0s10     c1t0d0s2      c1t0d0s8
c1t0d0p2      c1t0d0s11     c1t0d0s3      c1t0d0s9
c1t0d0p3      c1t0d0s12     c1t0d0s4
c1t0d0p4      c1t0d0s13     c1t0d0s5
c1t0d0s0      c1t0d0s14     c1t0d0s6

```

Examples of logical device names are the following:

- `c1t0d0s0`: A SCSI, SAS, or SATA disk device name that specifies controller 1, target 0, disk 0, and slice 0
- `c1d0p0`: An IDE disk name on an x86-based system that specifies controller 1, disk 0, and `fdisk` partition 0
- `c1d0s0`: An IDE disk name that specifies controller 1, disk 0, and slice 0
- `c2t11d0p0`: A SCSI, SAS, or SATA disk device name on an x86 system that specifies controller 2, target 11, disk 0, and `fdisk` partition 0
- `c2t11d0s0`: A SCSI, SAS, or SATA disk device name that specifies controller 2, target 11, disk 0, and slice 0
- `c3t266000C0FFF7C140d31s2`: A Fibre Channel attached LUN name that specifies controller 3, WWN 266000C0FFF7C140, LUN 31, and slice 2

On both SPARC-based and x86-based systems, the logical device name is the name that the system administrator uses to refer to a particular device when running various file system commands.

For example, if running the `mount` command, use the logical device name `/dev/dsk/c0t0d0s7` to mount the file system `/home`:

```
# mount /dev/dsk/c0t0d0s7 /home<cr>
```

Table 4-2 Device Directories

Directory	Description of Contents
/dev/dsk	Block interface to disk devices
/dev/rdisk	Raw or character interface to disk devices
/dev/rmt	Tape devices
/dev/term	Serial line devices
/dev/cua	Dial-out modems
/dev/pts	Pseudo terminals
/dev/fbs	Frame buffers
/dev/sad	STREAMS administrative driver
/dev/md	Metadevices managed by Oracle Solaris Volume Manager (SVM)

Logical device files in the /dev directory are symbolically linked to physical device files in the /devices directory. Logical device names are used to access disk devices if you do any of the following:

- Add a new disk to the system.
- Move a disk from one system to another.
- Access (or mount) a file system residing on a local disk.
- Back up a local file system.
- Repair a file system.

Logical devices are organized in subdirectories under the /dev directory by their device types, as shown in Table 4-2.

Block and Raw Devices

Disk drives have an entry under both the /dev/dsk and /dev/rdisk directories. The /dsk directory refers to the block or buffered device file, and the /rdisk directory refers to the character or raw device file. The “r” in rdisk stands for “raw.” You may even hear these devices referred to as “cooked” and “uncooked” devices.

The /dev/dsk directory contains the disk entries for the block device nodes in /devices, as shown in the following command output:

```
# ls -l /dev/dsk<cr>
total 96
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root      root          54 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s0 ->\
```

```

../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:a
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root      54 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s1 ->\
../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:b
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root      54 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s2 ->\
../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:c
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root      54 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s3 ->\
../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:d
... <Output has been truncated> ...

```

The `/dev/rdisk` directory contains the disk entries for the character device nodes in `/devices`, as shown in the following command:

```

# ls -l /dev/rdisk<cr>
total 96
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root      58 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s0 ->\
../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:a,raw
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root      58 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s1 ->\
../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:b,raw
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root      58 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s2 ->\
../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:c,raw
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root      58 Jan 21 07:59 c1t0d0s3 ->\
../../devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@0/scsi@0/sd@0,0:d,raw
... <Output has been truncated> ...

```

A File System Defined

A file system is a collection of files and directories stored on disk in a standard UNIX file system (UFS) format. All disk-based computer systems have a file system. In UNIX, file systems have two basic components: files and directories. A file is the actual information as it is stored on the disk, and a directory is a list of the filenames. In addition to keeping track of filenames, the file system must keep track of a file's access date, permissions, and ownership. Managing file systems is one of the system administrator's most important tasks. Administration of the file system involves the following:

- Ensuring that users have access to data. This means that systems are up and operational, file permissions are set up properly, and data is accessible.
- Protecting file systems against file corruption and hardware failures. This is accomplished by checking the file system regularly and maintaining proper system backups.
- Securing file systems against unauthorized access. Only authorized users should have access to files.
- Providing users with adequate space for their files.

- Keeping the file system clean. In other words, data in the file system must be relevant and not wasteful of disk space. Procedures are needed to make sure that users follow proper naming conventions and that data is stored in an organized manner.

You'll see the term "file system" used in several ways. Usually, "file system" describes a particular type of file system (disk based, network based, or virtual). It might also describe the entire file tree from the root directory downward. In another context, the term "file system" might be used to describe the structure of a disk slice, which is described later in this chapter.

Creating and administering ZFS file systems is described in the next chapter.

Defining a Disk's Geometry

Before creating a file system on a disk, you need to understand the basic geometry of a disk drive. Disks come in many shapes and sizes. The number of heads, tracks, and sectors and the disk capacity vary from one model to another. Basic disk terminology is described in Table 4-3.

A hard disk consists of several separate disk platters mounted on a common spindle. Data stored on each platter surface is written and read by disk heads. The circular path that a disk head traces over a spinning disk platter is called a "track."

Table 4-3 Disk Terminology

Disk Term	Description
Track	A concentric ring on a disk that passes under a single stationary disk head as the disk rotates.
Cylinder	The set of tracks with the same nominal distance from the axis about which the disk rotates.
Sector	Section of each disk platter. A sector holds 512 bytes.
Block	A data storage area on a disk. A disk block is 512 bytes.
Disk controller	A chip and its associated circuitry that control the disk drive.
Disk label	The first sector of a disk (block 0) that contains disk geometry and partition information. Also referred to as the VTOC. To label a disk means to write slice information onto the disk. You usually label a disk after you change its slices using the <code>format</code> command.
Device driver	A kernel module that controls a hardware or virtual device.

Each track is made up of a number of sectors laid end to end. A sector consists of a header, a trailer, and 512 bytes of data. The header and trailer contain error-checking information to help ensure the accuracy of the data. Taken together, the set of tracks traced across all the individual disk platter surfaces for a single position of the heads is called a “cylinder.”

Disk Controllers

Associated with every disk is a controller, an intelligent device responsible for organizing data on the disk. Some disk controllers are located on a separate circuit board, such as SCSI. Other controller types are integrated with the disk drive, such as SATA and IDE.

Defect List

Disks might contain areas where data cannot be written and retrieved reliably. These areas are called “defects.” The controller uses the error-checking information in each disk block’s trailer to determine whether a defect is present in that block. When a block is found to be defective, the controller can be instructed to add it to a defect list and avoid using that block in the future. The last two cylinders of a disk are set aside for diagnostic use and for storing the disk defect list.

Disk Labels

A special area of every disk is set aside for storing information about the disk’s controller, geometry, and slices. This information is called the disk’s label or VTOC.

To label a disk means to write slice information onto the disk. You usually label a disk after defining its slices. If you fail to label a disk after creating slices, the slices will be unavailable because the OS has no way of knowing about them.

Oracle Solaris supports two types of disk labels:

- SMI: The traditional VTOC disk label used for boot disks and disks smaller than two terabytes (2TB)
- EFI: The Extensible Firmware Interface label for disks larger than 2TB

The advantages of the EFI disk label over the SMI disk label are as follows:

- Provides support for disks greater than 2TB in size.
- Provides usable slices 0–6, where slice 2 is just another slice.

- Partitions (or slices) cannot overlap with the primary or backup label, nor with any other partitions. The size of the EFI label is usually 34 sectors, so partitions start at sector 34. This feature means that no partition can start at sector zero (0).
- No cylinder, head, or sector information is stored in the EFI label. Sizes are reported in blocks.
- Information that was stored in the alternate cylinders area, the last two cylinders of the disk, is now stored in slice 8.
- If you use the `format` utility to change partition sizes, the `unassigned` partition tag is assigned to partitions with sizes equal to zero. By default, the `format` utility assigns the `usr` partition tag to any partition with a size greater than zero. You can use the partition change menu to reassign partition tags after the partitions are changed.
- Oracle Solaris ZFS file systems use EFI labels by default when the entire disk is selected.

The following are restrictions of the EFI disk label:

- A disk with an EFI label may not be recognized on systems running older releases.
- Up until Oracle Solaris 11.1, the x86- and SPARC-based systems could not boot from a disk with an EFI disk label. In Oracle Solaris 11.1, x86-based systems can now boot to an EFI (GPT) labeled disk using GRUB2 (an updated version of GRUB). As of this writing, this feature is not currently available on SPARC-based systems. A boot disk on a SPARC-based system is installed with a legacy VTOC (SMI) label.
- The EFI specification prohibits overlapping slices. The entire disk is represented by `c##d##`.
- The EFI disk label provides information about disk or partition sizes in sectors and blocks, but not in cylinders and heads.
- The following `format` options are either not supported or are not applicable on disks with EFI labels:
 - The `save` option is not supported because disks with EFI labels do not need an entry in the `format.dat` file.
 - The `backup` option is not applicable because the disk driver finds the primary label and writes it back to the disk.

It may be necessary to change a disk label from SMI to EFI or vice versa. Use the `format` command with the `-e` option as described in the section titled, “Using the `format` Utility to Create Slices: SPARC” later in this chapter.

Partition Tables

An important part of the disk label is the partition table, which identifies a disk's slices, the slice boundaries (in cylinders), and the total size of the slices. A disk's partition table can be displayed by using the `format` utility described in the "Disk Slices" section that follows.

Disk Slices

Disks are divided into regions called "disk slices" or "disk partitions." A slice is composed of a single range of contiguous blocks. It is a physical subset of the disk (except for slice 2, which represents the entire disk). A UFS or the swap area is built within these disk slices. The boundaries of a disk slice are defined when a disk is partitioned using the `format` utility, and the slice information for a particular disk can be viewed by using the `prtvtoc` command. Each disk slice appears to the OS (and to the system administrator) as though it were a separate disk drive.

Disk Slices and ZFS

With ZFS file systems, disk slicing has become unnecessary except for configuring the boot disk. ZFS file systems are described in Chapter 5, "Administering ZFS File Systems." Previous versions of Oracle Solaris used disk slices, and you should be familiar with the concept in case you encounter disk slices on other Oracle Solaris systems.

Disk slicing differs between the SPARC and x86 platforms. On the SPARC platform, the entire disk is devoted to the OS; the disk can be divided into 8 slices, numbered 0 to 7. On the x86 platform, the disk is divided into `fdisk` partitions using the `fdisk` command. The `fdisk` partition is divided into 10 slices, numbered 0 to 9.

Slices Versus Partitions

Oracle Solaris device names use the term "slice" (and the letter "s" in the device name) to refer to the slice number. Slices were called partitions in SunOS 4.x. This book attempts to use the term "slice" whenever possible; however, certain interfaces, such as the `format` and `prtvtoc` commands, refer to slices as partitions.

A physical disk consists of a stack of circular platters. Data is stored on these platters in a cylindrical pattern called "cylinders" as illustrated in Figure 4-1. Cylinders can be grouped and isolated from one another. A group of cylinders is referred to as a slice. A slice is defined with start and end points, starting from the outside of the platters to the center of the stack of platters, which is called the "spindle."

For example, a 73GB SCSI disk has 14,087 cylinders, numbered 0 to 14,086. Cylinder 0 is on the outside edge of the platters, and cylinder 14,086 is the closest to the spindle. Disk slices are defined by an offset and a size in cylinders. The offset is

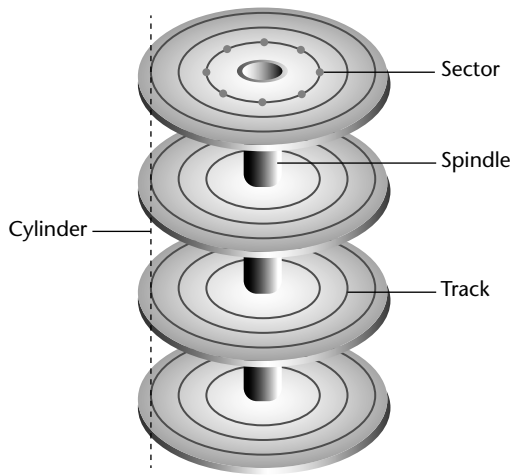


Figure 4-1 Disk platters and cylinders

the distance from cylinder 0. To define a slice, the administrator provides a starting cylinder and an ending cylinder. A slice spanning from cylinder 0 to 14,086 would use the entire disk and is typical of the slicing scheme used on a ZFS boot disk.

When setting up slices, remember these rules:

- Each disk slice holds only one file system.
- No file system can span multiple slices without the use of a volume manager such as ZFS or SVM.
- After a file system is created, its size cannot be increased or decreased without repartitioning and possibly destroying the partition directly before or after it.
- Slices cannot span multiple disks; however, multiple swap slices on separate disks are allowed.

When we discuss ZFS in Chapter 5, you'll learn how to get around some of these limitations in file systems.

Displaying Disk Configuration Information

As described earlier, disk configuration information is stored in the disk label. If you know the disk and slice number, you can display information for a disk by using the print volume table of contents (`prtvtoc`) command. You can specify the volume

by specifying any slice defined on the disk (for example, `/dev/rdisk/c0t3d0s2` or `/dev/rdisk/c0t3d0s*`). Regardless of which slice you specify, all slices defined on the disk will be displayed. If you know the target number of the disk but do not know how it is divided into slices, you can show information for the entire disk by specifying either slice 2 or `s*`. The following steps show how you can examine information stored on a disk's label by using the `prtvtoc` command.

1. Become the superuser.
2. Type the following text and press *Enter*.

```
# prtvtoc /dev/rdisk/c2t0d0s2<cr>
```

The system responds with the following:

```
* /dev/rdisk/c2t0d0s2 partition map
*
* Dimensions:
*   512 bytes/sector
*   424 sectors/track
*   24 tracks/cylinder
*  10176 sectors/cylinder
*  14089 cylinders
*  14087 accessible cylinders
*
* Flags:
*   1: unmountable
*  10: read-only
*
* Unallocated space:
*   First Sector      Last
*   Sector      Count  Sector
*         0      10176   10175
*
*
*   First Sector      Last
*   Sector      Count  Sector Mount Directory
* 0         2      00   10176 143339136 143349311
* 2         5      01         0 143349312 143349311
```

The disk described is a SAS disk, target 0 with an SMI VTOC label. The `prtvtoc` command shows the number of cylinders and heads, as well as how the disk's slices are arranged.

The following is an example of running the `prtvtoc` command on a SCSI disk with an EFI label:

```
# prtvtoc /dev/rdisk/c2t1d0s1<cr>
* /dev/rdisk/c2t1d0s1 partition map
```

continues

```

*
* Dimensions:
*   512 bytes/sector
* 8385121 sectors
* 8385054 accessible sectors
*
* Flags:
*  1: unmountable
* 10: read-only
*
*
* Partition  Tag  Flags  First Sector   Last
*          Sector Count   Sector Mount Directory
*          0    2    01      34    41006    41039
*          1    2    00    41040 8327663 8368702 /mnt
*          8    11   00 8368703 16384   8385086

```

Using the `format` Utility to Create Slices: SPARC

Before you can create a file system on a disk, the disk must be formatted, and you must divide it into slices using the `format` utility. Formatting involves two separate processes:

- Writing format information to the disk
- Completing a surface analysis, which compiles an up-to-date list of disk defects

When a disk is formatted, header and trailer information is superimposed on the disk. When the `format` utility runs a surface analysis, the controller scans the disk for defects. It should be noted that defects and formatting information reduce the total disk space available for data. This is why a new disk usually holds only 90% to 95% of its capacity after formatting. This percentage varies according to disk geometry and decreases as the disk ages and develops more defects.

The need to perform a surface analysis on a disk drive has dropped as more manufacturers ship their disk drives formatted and partitioned. You should not need to perform a surface analysis within the `format` utility when adding a disk drive to an existing system unless you think disk defects are causing problems. The primary reason that you would use `format` is if you want to view or change the partitioning scheme on a disk.

Always Back Up Your Data

Formatting and creating slices is a destructive process, so make sure user data is backed up before you start.

The `format` utility searches your system for all attached disk drives and reports the following information about the disk drives it finds:

- Target location
- Disk geometry
- Whether the disk is formatted
- Whether the disk has mounted partitions

In addition, the `format` utility is used in disk repair operations to do the following:

- Retrieve disk labels
- Repair defective sectors
- Format and analyze disks
- Partition disks
- Label disks (i.e., write the disk name and configuration information to the disk for future retrieval)

The installation program partitions and labels disk drives as part of installing the Oracle Solaris release. However, you might need to use the `format` utility when doing the following:

- Displaying slice information
- Dividing a disk into slices
- Formatting a disk drive when you think disk defects are causing problems
- Repairing a disk drive
- Changing a disk label from EFI to SMI or vice versa

The following example uses the `format` utility to create disk slices on a disk.

1. Become the superuser
2. Type “code.”

The system responds with the following:

```
Searching for disks ... done

AVAILABLE DISK SELECTIONS:
  0. c0t0d0 <SUN36G cyl 24620 alt 2 hd 27 sec 107>
     /pci@1f,0/pci@1/scsi@8/sd@0,0
  1. c0t1d0 <SUN36G cyl 24620 alt 2 hd 27 sec 107>
     /pci@1f,0/pci@1/scsi@8/sd@1,0
```


3. Specify the disk (enter its number).

The system responds with the format main menu:

```

FORMAT MENU:
  disk - select a disk
  type - select (define) a disk type
  partition - select (define) a partition table
  current - describe the current disk
  format - format and analyze the disk
  repair - repair a defective sector
  label - write label to the disk
  analyze - surface analysis
  defect - defect list management
  backup - search for backup labels
  verify - read and display labels
  save - save new disk/partition definitions
  inquiry - show vendor, product and revision
  volname - set 8-character volume name
  !<cmd> - execute <cmd>, then return
  quit

```

Table 4-4 describes the format main menu items.

4. Type “partition” at the format prompt. The partition menu is displayed.

Using Shortcuts in the `format` Utility

It is unnecessary to type the entire command. After you type the first two characters of a command, the `format` utility recognizes the entire command.

```

format> partition<cr>
PARTITION MENU:
  0 - change '0' partition
  1 - change '1' partition
  2 - change '2' partition
  3 - change '3' partition
  4 - change '4' partition
  5 - change '5' partition
  6 - change '6' partition
  7 - change '7' partition
  select - select a predefined table
  modify - modify a predefined partition table
  name - name the current table
  print - display the current table
  label - write partition map and label to the disk
  !<cmd> - execute <cmd>, then return
  quit

```

5. Type “print” to display the current partition map.

```

partition> print<cr>

```

Table 4-4 Format Main Menu Item Descriptions

Menu Item	Description
<code>disk</code>	Lists all of the system's drives. Also lets you choose the disk you want to use in subsequent operations. This disk is referred to as the current disk.
<code>type</code>	Identifies the manufacturer and model of the current disk. Also displays a list of known drive types. Choose the <i>Auto configure</i> option for all SCSI-2 disk drives.
<code>partition</code>	Creates and modifies slices.
<code>current</code>	Describes the current disk (that is, device name, device type, number of cylinders, alternate cylinders, heads, sectors, and physical device name).
<code>format</code>	Formats the current disk using one of these sources of information in this order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information that is found in the <code>format.dat</code> file. Information from the automatic configuration process. Information that you type at the prompt if no <code>format.dat</code> entry exists. <p>This command does not apply to IDE disks. IDE disks are preformatted by the manufacturer.</p>
<code>fdisk</code>	x86 platform only: Runs the <code>fdisk</code> program to create an Oracle Solaris <code>fdisk</code> partition.
<code>repair</code>	Used to repair a specific block on the current disk.
<code>label</code>	Writes a new label to the current disk. This is not the same as labeling the disk with <code>volname</code> .
<code>analyze</code>	Runs read, write, and compare tests.
<code>defect</code>	Retrieves and displays defect lists. This feature does not apply to IDE disks. IDE disks manage defects automatically.
<code>backup</code>	Searches for backup labels if the VTOC becomes corrupted or gets deleted.
<code>verify</code>	Displays information about the current disk such as device name, device type, number of cylinders, alternate cylinders, heads, sectors, and partition table.
<code>save</code>	Saves new disk and partition information.
<code>inquiry</code>	SCSI disks only: Displays the vendor, product name, and revision level of the current drive. This will also display the disk's current firmware.
<code>volname</code>	Labels the disk with a new eight-character volume name that you specify. This is not the same as writing the partition table to disk using <code>label</code> .
<code>quit</code>	Exits the format menu. Pressing <code>Ctrl+D</code> will also exit the <code>format</code> utility from the main menu or from any submenu.

The system responds with the following:

```
Current partition table (original):
Total disk cylinders available: 24620 + 2 (reserved cylinders)

Part      Tag      Flag      Cylinders      Size      Blocks
0         root     wm      1418 - 9924    11.72GB   (8507/0/0) 24576723
1         var      wm      9925 - 13469   4.88GB    (3545/0/0) 10241505
2         backup  wm         0 - 24619    33.92GB   (24620/0/0) 71127180
3         swap    wu         0 - 1417     1.95GB    (1418/0/0) 4096602
4 unassigned wm    13470 - 14887   1.95GB    (1418/0/0) 4096602
5 unassigned wm    14888 - 16112   1.69GB    (1225/0/0) 3539025
6 unassigned wm    16113 - 16821  1000.15MB (709/0/0) 2048301
7         home     wm    16822 - 23910   9.77GB    (7089/0/0) 20480121
```

The columns displayed with the partition table are

- **Part:** The slice number (0–7).
- **Tag:** This is an optional value that indicates how the slice is being used. The value can be any of the following names that best fits the function of the file system you are creating:
unassigned, boot, root, swap, usr, backup, stand, var, home, alternates, reserved, system, BIOS_boot
- **Flag:** Values in this column can be
 - wm The disk slice is writable and mountable.
 - wu The disk slice is writable and unmountable (such as a swap slice).
 - rm The disk slice is read-only and mountable.
 - ru The disk slice is read-only and unmountable.
- **Cylinders:** The starting and ending cylinder number for the disk slice.
- **Size:** The slice size specified as
 - mb megabytes
 - gb gigabytes
 - b blocks
 - c cylinders
 - b Blocks
 - e Ending cylinder

Wasted Disk Space

Wasted disk space occurs during partitioning when one or more cylinders have not been allocated to a disk slice. This may happen intentionally or accidentally. If there are unallocated slices available, then wasted space can possibly be assigned to a slice at another time.

You can use the name and save commands in the partition menu to name and save a newly created partition table to a file that can be referenced by

name later, when you want to use this same partition scheme on another disk. When issuing the `name` command, you'll provide a unique name for this partition scheme and then issue the `save` command to save the information to the `./format.dat` file. Normally this file is located in the `/etc` directory, so provide the full pathname for `/etc/format.dat` to update the master file.

6. After you partition the disk, you must label it by typing `label` at the partition prompt:

```
partition> label<cr>
```

You are asked for confirmation on labeling the disk as follows:

```
Ready to label disk, continue? y<cr>
```

Enter “Y” to continue.

Label Your Drive

To label a disk means to write slice information onto the disk. If you don't label the drive when exiting the `format` utility, your partition changes will not be retained. It's a good idea to get into the habit of labeling at the partition submenu, but you can also label at the `format` utility main menu as well—you get two chances to remember before exiting the utility.

7. After labeling the disk, type “quit” to exit the partition menu or press `Ctrl+D` to exit the `format` utility:

```
partition> quit<cr>
```

8. Type “quit” again to exit the `format` utility:

```
format> quit<cr>
```

It's important to point out a few undesirable things that can happen when defining disk partitions with the `format` utility if you're not careful. First, be careful not to waste disk space. Wasted disk space can occur when you decrease the size of one slice and do not adjust the starting cylinder number of the adjoining disk slice.

Second, don't overlap disk slices. Overlapping occurs when one or more cylinders are allocated to more than one disk slice. For example, increasing the size of one slice without decreasing the size of the adjoining slice will create overlapping partitions. The `format` utility will not warn you of wasted disk space or overlapping partitions.

The main reason a system administrator uses the `format` utility is to divide a disk into disk slices. In Oracle Solaris 11 11/11, for a bootable ZFS root pool, the disks in the pool must contain slices and must be labeled with an SMI label. The simplest configuration would be to put the entire disk capacity in slice 0 and use that slice for the root pool. Bootable ZFS root pools are discussed further in Chapter 5.

EFI Boot Disks in Oracle Solaris 11.1

Oracle Solaris 11.1 is the first release to support booting from an EFI (GPT) or SMI formatted disk on the x86-based systems using GRUB2. As of this writing, the SPARC platform still requires the boot disk to contain an SMI label.

I'll describe how to use the SMI label for SPARC-based systems. For example, on a SPARC-based system with a 72GB disk, you would need to have 68GB of usable space located in slice 0. Similarly, on an x86-based system with a 72GB disk, you would also need to allow 68GB of usable space located in slice 0. A small amount of boot information is contained in slice 8. Slice 8 requires no administration and cannot be changed.

Follow these steps to partition a disk (`c2t0d0`) to be used as a ZFS boot disk (bootable ZFS root pool) on a SPARC-based system. If the disk has an EFI label, and the firmware has not been upgraded, you must first convert it to an SMI label.

Use the `prtvtoc` command to verify the disk label as follows:

```
# prtvtoc /dev/rdisk/c2t0d0s2<cr>
```

The system displays

Part	Tag	Flag	Cylinders	Size	Blocks
0	root	wm	1 - 14086	68.35GB	(14086/0/0) 143339136
1	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
2	backup	wu	0 - 14086	68.35GB	(14087/0/0) 143349312
3	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
4	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
5	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
6	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
7	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0

Notice that slice 2 is labeled "backup" and the slices are numbered 0-7. This is an SMI label.

The following shows the output that is displayed for a disk with an EFI label:

Part	Tag	Flag	First Sector	Size	Last Sector
0	usr	wm	34	68.36GB	143358320
1	unassigned	wm	0	0	0
2	unassigned	wm	0	0	0
3	unassigned	wm	0	0	0
4	unassigned	wm	0	0	0
5	unassigned	wm	0	0	0
6	unassigned	wm	0	0	0
7	unassigned	wm	0	0	0
8	reserved	wm	143358321	8.00MB	143374704

Notice there is a slice 8 and slice 2 is NOT labeled “backup.” This is an EFI label and would need to be changed. Use the following steps to change the label from an EFI label to an SMI label:

1. As root, use the `format -e` command and select the disk to label as follows:

```
# format -e<cr>
```

The system displays a list of disks. In the example, I selected disk 1 (c2t1d0):

```
Searching for disks ... done
AVAILABLE DISK SELECTIONS:
   0. c2t0d0 <SUN72G cyl 14087 alt 2 hd 24 sec 424>
      /pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@0,0
   1. c2t1d0 <SEAGATE-ST973402SSUN72G-0603-68.37GB>
      /pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@1,0
Specify disk (enter its number): 1<cr>
selecting c2t1d0
[disk formatted]
```

2. The main menu is displayed. Type “label” to label the disk:

```
FORMAT MENU:
disk          - select a disk
type         - select (define) a disk type
partition    - select (define) a partition table
current      - describe the current disk
format       - format and analyze the disk
repair       - repair a defective sector
label        - write label to the disk
analyze      - surface analysis
defect       - defect list management
backup       - search for backup labels
verify       - read and display labels
inquiry      - show disk ID
scsi         - independent SCSI mode selects
cache        - enable, disable or query SCSI disk cache
volname      - set 8-character volume name
```

continues

```
!<cmd> - execute <cmd>, then return
quit
format> label<cr>
```

3. Select option 1 to label the disk with an SMI label and press *Enter* when prompted for autoconfiguration:

```
[0] SMI Label
[1] EFI Label
Specify Label type[1]: 0<cr>
Auto configuration via format.dat [no]?<cr>
Auto configuration via generic SCSI-2 [no]?<cr>
format>
```

4. Exit the format utility.

```
format> quit<cr>
```

To slice the disk so that it can be used as a ZFS boot disk, follow these steps:

1. As root, enter the format utility:

```
# format<cr>
Searching for disks ... done
```

Select the disk that is going to be sliced. In the example, I will select disk 1 (c2t1d0):

```
AVAILABLE DISK SELECTIONS:
  0. c2t0d0 <SUN72G cyl 14087 alt 2 hd 24 sec 424>
    /pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@0,0
  1. c2t1d0 <SEAGATE-ST973402SSUN72G-0603-68.37GB>
    /pci@780/pci@0/pci@9/scsi@0/sd@1,0
Specify disk (enter its number): 1<cr>
```

The system responds with

```
selecting c2t1d0
[disk formatted]
```

2. Type “partition” at the format prompt. The partition menu is displayed.

```
format> partition<cr>
PARTITION MENU:
```

```

0 - change '0' partition
1 - change '1' partition
2 - change '2' partition
3 - change '3' partition
4 - change '4' partition
5 - change '5' partition
6 - change '6' partition
7 - change '7' partition
select - select a predefined table
modify - modify a predefined partition table
name - name the current table
print - display the current table
label - write partition map and label to the disk
!<cmd> - execute <cmd>, then return
quit

```

3. Type “print” to display the current partition map.

```
partition> print<cr>
```

The system responds with the following:

```

partition> print<cr>
Current partition table (original):
Total disk cylinders available: 14087 + 2 (reserved cylinders)

Part      Tag      Flag      Cylinders      Size      Blocks
0         root     wm        0 - 25         129.19MB  (26/0/0)    264576
1         swap     wu        26 - 51         129.19MB  (26/0/0)    264576
2         backup   wu        0 - 14086      68.35GB   (14087/0/0) 143349312
3 unassigned wm        0              0          (0/0/0)     0
4 unassigned wm        0              0          (0/0/0)     0
5 unassigned wm        0              0          (0/0/0)     0
6         usr      wm        52 - 14086     68.10GB   (14035/0/0) 142820160
7 unassigned wm        0              0          (0/0/0)     0

partition>

```

4. Enter “modify” to change the partition table:

```
partition> modify<cr>
```

5. Select option 1 for “All Free Hog” when prompted:

```

Select partitioning base:
  0. Current partition table (original)
  1. All Free Hog
Choose base (enter number) [0]? 1<cr>

Part      Tag      Flag      Cylinders      Size      Blocks
0         root     wm        0              0          (0/0/0)     0

```

continues

1	swap	wu	0	0	(0/0/0)	0
2	backup	wu	0 - 14086	68.35GB	(14087/0/0)	143349312
3	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0)	0
4	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0)	0
5	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0)	0
6	usr	wm	0	0	(0/0/0)	0
7	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0)	0

6. Type “yes” when asked whether to continue:

```
Do you wish to continue creating a new partition table based on above table[yes]?
yes<cr>
```

Type “0” for the Free Hog partition:

```
Free Hog partition[6]? 0<cr>
```

The Free Hog Slice

When using the `format` utility to change the size of disk slices, a temporary slice is automatically designated that expands and shrinks to accommodate the slice resizing operations. This temporary slice is referred to as the “free hog,” and it represents the unused disk space on a disk drive. If a slice is decreased, the free hog expands. After the `modify` operation is complete, the remaining free hog space is allocated to the slice specified.

7. The system will prompt you to enter a size for each partition. Press *Enter* when prompted as follows, and each slice will be 0MB:

```
Enter size of partition '1' [0b, 0c, 0.00mb, 0.00gb]:<cr>
Enter size of partition '3' [0b, 0c, 0.00mb, 0.00gb]:<cr>
Enter size of partition '4' [0b, 0c, 0.00mb, 0.00gb]:<cr>
Enter size of partition '5' [0b, 0c, 0.00mb, 0.00gb]:<cr>
Enter size of partition '6' [0b, 0c, 0.00mb, 0.00gb]:<cr>
Enter size of partition '7' [0b, 0c, 0.00mb, 0.00gb]:<cr>
```

Because all of the slices have been set to “0,” the free hog space is the entire disk. This space will be allocated to slice 0 as specified in step 6.

8. When prompted to make this the current partition table, press *Enter* to use the default value “yes”:

```
Okay to make this the current partition table[yes]?<cr>
```

9. When prompted for a table name, enter “rootdisk.” This name is not significant and can be any name.

```
Enter table name (remember quotes): rootdisk<cr>
```

Enter “pr” to display the new partition table:

```
partition> pr<cr>
Current partition table (unnamed):
Total disk cylinders available: 14087 + 2 (reserved cylinders)
Part      Tag      Flag      Cylinders      Size      Blocks
0         root     wm        0 - 14086      68.35GB   (14087/0/0) 143349312
1         swap     wu        0              0         (0/0/0)     0
2         backup   wu        0 - 14086      68.35GB   (14087/0/0) 143349312
3 unassigned wm        0              0         (0/0/0)     0
4 unassigned wm        0              0         (0/0/0)     0
5 unassigned wm        0              0         (0/0/0)     0
6         usr      wm        0              0         (0/0/0)     0
7 unassigned wm        0              0         (0/0/0)     0

partition>
```

Notice that slice 0 is the entire disk.

10. Enter “quit” or press *Ctrl+D* to exit the `format` utility.

```
partition> quit<cr>
```

Using the `format` Utility to Create Slices: x86

As described earlier in this chapter, Oracle Solaris on the x86 platform treats disk drives slightly differently than on the SPARC-based systems. Disks on the x86 platform must have an `fdisk` partition table. The x86-based systems use the `fdisk` partition table to identify parts of the disk reserved for different OSs and to identify the partition that the system will boot from. This boot partition is referred to as the “active disk” partition. You can assign one `fdisk` partition on a disk to be used for Oracle Solaris.

On an x86-based system, once a disk drive has been physically installed and verified as working, you’ll use the `format` command to slice the disk, but first an `fdisk` partition must be created on the new drive. You can create this `fdisk` partition using the `fdisk` command from the command line or through the `format` utility.

The following steps describe how to create a fixed disk partition table on a disk using the format utility:

1. As root, type “format” to get into the format utility.

```
# format<cr>
```

The following menu appears:

```
AVAILABLE DISK SELECTIONS:
  0. c1t0d0 <FUJITSU-M1606S-512-6234 cyl 3455 alt 2 hd 6 sec 102>
    /pci@0,0/pci9004,8178@3/cmdk@0,0
  1. c1t1d0 <IBM-DFHSS1W!e-4141 cyl 4071 alt 2 hd 4 sec 135>
    /pci@0,0/pci9004,8178@3/cmdk@1,0
  2. c1t2d0 <DEFAULT cyl 2928 alt 2 hd 6 sec 120>
    /pci@0,0/pci9004,8178@3/cmdk@2,0
Specify disk (enter its number):
```

2. Enter the number corresponding to the new drive and the following menu will be displayed:

```
FORMAT MENU:
disk          - select a disk
type          - select (define) a disk type
partition    - select (define) a partition table
current      - describe the current disk
format       - format and analyze the disk
fdisk       - run the fdisk program
repair       - repair a defective sector
label       - write label to the disk
analyze     - surface analysis
defect      - defect list management
backup      - search for backup labels
verify      - read and display labels
save        - save new disk/partition definitions
inquiry     - show vendor, product and revision
volname     - set 8-character volume name5
quit
format>
```

3. Select the fdisk option and the following menu appears:

```
The recommended default partitioning for your disk is:
a 100% "SOLARIS System" partition.

To select this, please type "y". To partition your disk
differently, type "n" and the "fdisk" program will let you select other
partitions.
```

4. If you wish to use the entire drive for Oracle Solaris, enter “Y.” This will return you to the format menu. If “N” is entered, the fdisk menu will be displayed.

```

Total disk size is 4073 cylinders
Cylinder size is 540 (512 byte) blocks
                                Cylinders
Partition Status Type          Start End Length  %
-----
THERE ARE NO PARTITIONS CURRENTLY DEFINED
SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
  1. Create a partition
  2. Change Active (Boot from) partition
  3. Delete a partition
  4. Exit (Update disk configuration and exit)
  5. Cancel (Exit without updating disk configuration)
Enter Selection:

```

5. Choose 1 to create an `fdisk` partition. This is not the same as a slice.
6. After creating the partition, choose 4 to exit and save. The format menu will return.
7. Choose partition and follow the procedure for formatting a disk on page 272, beginning at step 4.

Disks on x86-based systems can be divided into 10 slices labeled slice 0 through slice 9. On Oracle Solaris 11/11, slices 0 through 7 are used for the same purposes as disk slices found on SPARC-based systems. Slice 2 represents all of the space within the `fdisk` partition. As stated earlier, slices 8 and 9 are used for purposes specific to x86-based hardware. You cannot modify slices 8 and 9 using the `format` utility. Beginning with Oracle Solaris 11.1, the boot disk on an x86-based system can contain an EFI label, and the partition scheme is slightly different than the SPARC system. Slice 0 is reserved for the `BIOS_boot` information. I'll describe this more in the next chapter.

Here's an example of the partition table on an IDE or SATA disk on an x86-based system running Oracle Solaris 11/11, as displayed by the `format` utility:

Part	Tag	Flag	Cylinders	Size	Blocks
8	boot	wu	0 - 0	7.84MB	(1/0/0) 16065
9	alternates	wm	1 - 2	15.69MB	(2/0/0) 32130

In the previous example, notice that slice 9 is defined and tagged as the `alternates` slice.

The next example shows the partition table for a SCSI disk attached to an x86-based system. Notice that partition 8 is assigned, but slice 9 is not used:

Part	Tag	Flag	Cylinders	Size	Blocks
8	boot	wu	0 - 0	7.84MB	(1/0/0) 16065
9	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0

One more item of note: On standard UFSs, don't change the size of disk slices that are currently in use. When a disk with existing slices is repartitioned and relabeled, any existing data will be lost. Before repartitioning a disk, first copy all of the data to tape or to another disk.

You can also create the fixed disk partition table on an x86-based system disk from the command line using a single command as follows:

```
# fdisk -B c1t0d0<cr>
```

The `-B` option creates a single fixed disk partition that spans the entire disk. The following 36GB disk was formatted using the `fdisk -B` command:

Part	Tag	Flag	Cylinders	Size	Blocks
0	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
1	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
2	backup	wu	0 - 4695	35.97GB	(4696/0/0) 75441240
3	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
4	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
5	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
6	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
7	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0
8	boot	wu	0 - 0	7.84MB	(1/0/0) 16065
9	unassigned	wm	0	0	(0/0/0) 0

The `fdisk -B` command can also be used to convert a disk label from an EFI to SMI.

To verify that a disk contains a fixed disk partition table, issue the following command:

```
# fdisk -v -W - /dev/rdisk/c3t0d0p<cr>
```

The system displays the `fdisk` table for disk `c3t0d0`:

```
* /dev/rdisk/c3t0d0p0 default fdisk table
* Dimensions:
* 512 bytes/sector
* 63 sectors/track
* 255 tracks/cylinder
* 2088 cylinders
*
* systid:
* 1: DOSOS12
* 2: PCIXOS
* 4: DOSOS16
* 5: EXTDOS
* 6: DOSBIG
* 7: FDISK_IFS
```

```

*      8: FDISK_AIXBOOT
*      9: FDISK_AIXDATA
*     10: FDISK_OS2BOOT
*     11: FDISK_WINDOWS
*     12: FDISK_EXT_WIN
*     14: FDISK_FAT95
*     15: FDISK_EXTLBA
*     18: DIAGPART
*     65: FDISK_LINUX
*     82: FDISK_CPM
*     86: DOSDATA
*     98: OTHEROS
*     99: UNIXOS
*    100: FDISK_NOVELL2
*    101: FDISK_NOVELL3
*    119: FDISK_QNX4
*    120: FDISK_QNX42
*    121: FDISK_QNX43
*    130: SUNIXOS
*    131: FDISK_LINUXNAT
*    134: FDISK_NTFSVOL1
*    135: FDISK_NTFSVOL2
*    165: FDISK_BSD
*    167: FDISK_NEXTSTEP
*    183: FDISK_BSDIFS
*    184: FDISK_BSDISWAP
*    190: X86BOOT
*    191: SUNIXOS2
*    238: EFI_PMBR
*    239: EFI_FS

* Id   Act   Bhead   Bsect   Bcyl   Ehead   Esect   Ecyl   Rsect   Numsect
  191  128    0        1        1     254     63     1023   16065   33527655
    0    0    0        0        0        0        0        0        0        0
    0    0    0        0        0        0        0        0        0        0
    0    0    0        0        0        0        0        0        0        0

```

When there are multiple disks of the same type (manufacturer, model, size, and geometry) to be sliced, you can save time by copying the label from a source disk over to a target disk without going through all of the steps using the `format` utility. Use the `prtvtoc` command to get the partition table from the source disk (`c0t0d0`) and write the table to the target disk (`c0t1d0`) using the `fmthard` command as follows:

```
# prtvtoc /dev/rdisk/c0t0d0s2 | fmthard -s - /dev/rdisk/c0t1d0s2<cr>
```

Administering LUNs

Many modern Oracle Solaris systems are attached directly to an external Storage Area Network (SAN) device containing several disk drives. The drives in this storage device are configured as virtual drives, and each is referred to as a logical unit. Each logical unit is identified by a number, the logical unit number or LUN. The LUN is attached to the server through a Fibre Channel connection. These LUNs

appear as disk drives, just like an internal disk, but the device name is different in that it contains the device's World Wide Name (WWN). Here's an example:

```
# format<cr>
Searching for disks ... done

AVAILABLE DISK SELECTIONS:
  0. c0t0d0 <SUN146G cyl 14087 alt 2 hd 24 sec 848>
    /pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@8/pci@0/scsi@1/sd@0,0
  1. c0t1d0 <SUN146G cyl 14087 alt 2 hd 24 sec 848>
    /pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@8/pci@0/scsi@1/sd@1,0
  2. c3t60A98000572D577465346D3936706348d0 <NETAPP-LUN-7330-200.00GB>
    /scsi_vhci/ssd@g60a98000572d577465346d3936706348
  3. c3t60A9800043346B74635A4F4371304A66d0 <NETAPP-LUN-7330-200.00GB>
    /scsi_vhci/ssd@g60a9800043346b74635a4f4371304a66
  4. c3t60A9800043346B74635A4F4370767969d0 <NETAPP-LUN-7330-200.00GB>
    /scsi_vhci/ssd@g60a9800043346b74635a4f4370767969
  5. c3t60A9800043346B7448344F4371543378d0 <NETAPP-LUN-7330-1.27TB>
    /scsi_vhci/ssd@g60a9800043346b7448344f4371543378
  6. c3t60A9800043346B7448344F4374437666d0 <NETAPP-LUN-7330-1.22TB>
    /scsi_vhci/ssd@g60a9800043346b7448344f4374437666
Specify disk (enter its number):
```

For disks 2–6, the WWN is in place of the target ID field. On a fiber-attached device, the WWN is a unique identifier used to uniquely identify each LUN in a Fibre Channel network. In the previous example, the server is connected to a NetApp data storage system connected via Fibre Channel. The LUNs were identified and dynamically configured during the boot process. They can be displayed using the format command as shown in the previous example.

Use the `luxadm` command to scan the devices and present a list of all LUNs and their logical names as follows:

```
# luxadm probe<cr>
No Network Array enclosures found in /dev/es

Found Fibre Channel device(s):
Node WWN:500a0980894b97b6 Device Type:Disk device
  Logical Path:/dev/rdsk/c3t60A98000572D577465346D3936706348d0s2
Node WWN:500a0980894b97b6 Device Type:Disk device
  Logical Path:/dev/rdsk/c3t60A9800043346B74635A4F4371304A66d0s2
Node WWN:500a0980894b97b6 Device Type:Disk device
  Logical Path:/dev/rdsk/c3t60A9800043346B74635A4F4370767969d0s2
Node WWN:500a0980894b97b6 Device Type:Disk device
  Logical Path:/dev/rdsk/c3t60A9800043346B7448344F4371543378d0s2
Node WWN:500a0980894b97b6 Device Type:Disk device
  Logical Path:/dev/rdsk/c3t60A9800043346B7448344F4374437666d0s2
```

Choose a logical name and display information about each individual LUN as follows:

```
# luxadm display /dev/rdsk/c3t60A98000572D577465346D3936706348d0s2<cr>
DEVICE PROPERTIES for disk: /dev/rdsk/c3t60A98000572D577465346D3936706348d0s2
Vendor:                NETAPP
Product ID:            LUN
```

```

Revision:          7330
Serial Num:       W-Wte4m96pcH
Unformatted capacity: 204800.000 MBytes
Read Cache:      Enabled
  Minimum prefetch: 0x0
  Maximum prefetch: 0x0
Device Type:     Disk device
Path(s) :

/dev/rdsk/c3t60A98000572D577465346D3936706348d0s2
/devices/scsi_vhci/ssd@g60a98000572d577465346d3936706348:c,raw
Controller       /devices/pci@1,700000/SUNW,emlxs@0/fp@0,0
Device Address   500a0981894b97b6,5
Host controller port WWN 10000000c9729bb9
Class            primary
State            ONLINE
Controller

/devices/pci@0,600000/pci@0/pci@9/SUNW,emlxs@0/fp@0,0
Device Address   500a0981994b97b6,5
Host controller port WWN 10000000c972a675
Class            secondary
State            ONLINE

```

Provide the information obtained from the `luxadm display` command to your storage administrator so that you create the file system on the correct LUN. It's very important that you select the correct LUN when more than one LUN is available.

The next step is to configure a file system on the LUN. I'll create a ZFS file system on the LUN as follows:

```
# zpool create pool1 c3t60A98000572D577465346D3936706348d0<cr>
```

For more information on creating file systems, refer to Chapter 5.

Summary

This chapter discussed administering storage devices and the various device drivers and device names used in Oracle Solaris 11. You must understand the device naming conventions used on both the SPARC-based and x86-based systems. I described the Oracle Solaris commands and utilities used to obtain information about these devices and drivers.

Device drivers are discussed in several chapters of this book because they are used in many aspects of the system administrator's job. Devices are referenced when we install and boot the OS, when creating and mounting file systems, when setting up printers, and in general troubleshooting of system problems. It is very important that you have a good understanding of how device drivers are configured and named in the Oracle Solaris operating environment.

Now that we've discussed devices, device and driver names, and disk slices, the next chapter will introduce the creation and administration of ZFS file systems.

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