

RE: Dynamic vs Basic Partitions

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.general/2006-09/msg00672.html>

- *From:* Joey <joey@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Walter,

I thought I was golden with that program but I actually came across a computer that show LDM information for a basic disk. When I run it on other comps it gives me the no LDM database for all the basic disks but this one server does have LDM info on the basic disk. Not sure how that is possible but I am going to need a different solution. I know it is possible because I have other programs that run and only show basic disks on the comp.

Thanks again!

"Walter Wang [MSFT]" wrote:

Hi,

Dyanamic disks are partitioned using Logical Disk Manager (LDM) partitioning. The LDM subsystem in Windows, which consists of user-mode and device driver components, oversees dynamic disks. LDM maintains one unified database that stores partitioning information for all the dynamic disks on a system—including multipartition-volume configuration.

As far as I know, there're no API for calling LDM service.

The LDM database resides in a 1-MB reserved space at the end of each dynamic disk. Unfortunately this database's format is not officially documented.

Sysinternals.com has a freeware called `ldmdump.exe` (<http://www.sysinternals.com/Utilities/LdmDump.html>) which can display the database content.

For a basic disk, the output will be:

Logical Disk Manager Configuration Dump v1.03
Copyright (C) 2000-2002 Mark Russinovich

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Disk does not have LDM database.

For a dynamic disk, the output will be:

Logical Disk Manager Configuration Dump v1.03
Copyright (C) 2000–2002 Mark Russinovich

PRIVATE HEAD:

Signature : PRIVHEAD

Version : 2.11

Disk Id : 49448001–f838–447d–836d–85002666e401

Host Id : 1b77da20–c717–11d0–a5be–00a0c91db73c

Disk Group Id : 158f43d4–430b–4c1e–b6ad–43254e9c27d8

Disk Group Name : Sha–wawang–v5Dg0

Logical disk start : 3F

Logical disk size : 9C25FE (4996 MB)

Configuration start: 9C3520

Configuration size : 800 (1 MB)

Number of TOCs : 1

TOC size : 7FE (1023 KB)

Number of Configs : 1

Config size : 5AC (726 KB)

Number of Logs : 1

Log size : DC (1