

## Re: Adding another Raid – How Best to go about it.

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- *From:* "SuperGumby [SBS MVP]" <[not@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:not@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 28 Aug 2008 06:47:59 +1000
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It's almost as easy to create the array at BIOS level. So if installing OM is gonna 'push' your free space even to a minimally uncomfortable level I'd probably not do it.

I'm interested in if the existing 80GB array is partitioned at all, and if so the layout and use(size of parts, %free space, files on it).

re swapfiles: With a brand new set of spindles I would definitely create the first partition on those spindles as swapfile space (\*2, to allow NTFS performance). I would adjust the swapfile on the OS partition to RAM+20MB (to allow a crash dump) and probably create another swapfile on the 2nd array of same size. In both cases setting the min/max values to the same fixed value (to prevent fragmentation).

My 2nd partition on the new array would be for Exchange\mdbdata. (size of Exch DB + expected growth, times 2, or maybe 3[to account for unexpected growth])

Placing these two areas on the 1st two partitions places them at the extreme outer edge of the HDDs, where fastest performance is expected. I may in fact combine these two partitions into a single partition but create the swapfile before moving the Exchange database here. The reason has to do with %free space. With a 20GB Exchange, an expectation of 100% growth in this during the life of the server and 4GB swapfile locating the two on a single partition of, say, 70–80GB would seem reasonable. Before anyone mentions Exchange defragmentation and its need for 110% free space, yes, I know, but the temp file location can be specified during this process and could as easily be elsewhere on the 500 array, also, until that 100% growth occurs we have room on this partition for this activity.

"claimed4all" <[claimed4all@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:claimed4all@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:80FA549A-1D28-4146-8D9A-8618FF589048@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:80FA549A-1D28-4146-8D9A-8618FF589048@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

I see the person before me never installed OPEN MANAGE, but I have the disks.

Is it pretty easy without OPEN MANAGE or should I install it. If I do how much space does it take up, because I am adding hard drives because of a severe shortage of memory on my D partition. I see that open manage is 4

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disk, so it seems like it could be upwards of 2 gigs, which wouldn't kill me,  
I could still get by.

"AllenM" wrote:

All of this can be done within the DELL OPEN MANAGE UTILITY. Pretty simple and straight forward.

"Matabra" <Matabra@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:etADf2FCJHA.1628@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:etADf2FCJHA.1628@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hi,

Pretty much its that simple. Plug in drives, Create array in the RAID software, Go To Disk Management and create the partition.

Remember to Raid it, (for project work id suggest mirrored) in the raid software, and it will show up as 1 500gb drive in Disk management

Easy as pie!

Matt

"claimed4all"

<claimed4all@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:BDBE7CB6-39BC-4E22-BA36-3E89F40E8117@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:BDBE7CB6-39BC-4E22-BA36-3E89F40E8117@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Currently I have a Raid 1 with two 80gb harddrives. I have purchased two 500gb hard drives and I plan to move our project files over to those drives.

I have a Dell Poweredge 1800 with Hardware Raid, with 6 different channels.

All I want to do is add the 500gb Harddrives, as a diffrent drive letter

(meaning I do not want to expand the volumes and span accross the drives),

and move the data over and tell the users where it now resides. I

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only  
have  
10 users so it doesn't seem like an  
overwhelming task. But I poked  
around  
the Raid Setup and DOS, is it pretty much  
plug in the drives and  
create  
the  
array in the program, or am I missing a  
whole lot of steps. Any  
insight  
would be great, Thanks.