NAME
cfdisk - display or manipulate a disk partition table

SYNOPSIS
cfdisk [**options**] [*device*]

DESCRIPTION
cfdisk is a curses/slang-based program for partitioning any block device. The default device is **/dev/sda**.

Note that **cfdisk** provides basic partitioning functionality with a user-friendly interface. If you need advanced features, use fdisk(8) instead.

Since version 2.25 **cfdisk** supports MBR (DOS), GPT, SUN and SGI disk labels, but no longer provides any functionality for CHS (Cylinder-Head-Sector) addressing. CHS has never been important for Linux, and this addressing concept does not make any sense for new devices.

Since version 2.25 **cfdisk** also does not provide a 'print' command any more. This functionality is provided by the utilities partx(8) and lsblk(8) in a very comfortable and rich way.

If you want to remove an old partition table from a device, use wipefs(8).

OPTIONS
-h, **--help**
> Display help text and exit.

-L, **--color**[=*when*]
> Colorize the output; enabled by default. The optional argument *when* can be **auto**, **never** or **always**. If the *when* argument is omitted, it defaults to **auto**.

-V, **--version**
> Display version information and exit.

-z, **--zero**
> Start with an in-memory zeroed partition table. This option does not zero the partition table on the disk; rather, it simply starts the program without reading the existing partition table.

COMMANDS
The commands for **cfdisk** can be entered by pressing the corresponding key (pressing *Enter* after the command is not necessary). Here is a list of the available commands:

b
> Toggle the bootable flag of the current partition. This allows you to select which primary partition is bootable on the drive. This command may not be available for all partition label types.

d
> Delete the current partition. This will convert the current partition into free space and merge it with any free space immediately surrounding the current partition. A partition already marked as free space or marked as unusable cannot be deleted.

h
> Show the help screen.

n
> Create a new partition from free space. **cfdisk** then prompts you for the size of the partition you want to create. The default size is equal to the entire available free space at the current position.
>
> The size may be followed by a multiplicative suffix: KiB (=1024), MiB (=1024*1024), and so on for GiB, TiB, PiB, EiB, ZiB and YiB (the iB is optional, e.g. K has the same meaning as KiB).

q
> Quit the program. This will exit the program without writing any data to the disk.

t
> Change the partition type. By default, new partitions are created as *Linux* partitions.

W   Write the partition table to disk (you must enter an uppercase W). Since this might destroy data on the disk, you must either confirm or deny the write by entering 'yes' or 'no'. If you enter 'yes', **cfdisk** will write the partition table to disk and then tell the kernel to re-read the partition table from the disk.

         The re-reading of the partition table does not always work. In such a case you need to inform the kernel about any new partitions by using partprobe(8) or partx(8), or by rebooting the system.

Up Arrow, Down Arrow
         Move the cursor to the previous or next partition. If there are more partitions than can be displayed on a screen, you can display the next (previous) set of partitions by moving down (up) at the last (first) partition displayed on the screen.

All commands can be entered with either uppercase or lowercase letters (except for **W**rite). When in a submenu or at a prompt for entering a size, you can hit the *ESC* key to return to the main menu.

COLORS

Implicit coloring can be disabled by creating the empty file */etc/terminal-colors.d/cfdisk.disable*.

See terminal-colors.d(5) for more details about colorization configuration.

cfdisk does not support color customization with a color-scheme file.

SEE ALSO

fdisk(8), sfdisk(8), parted(8), partprobe(8), partx(8)

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The current cfdisk implementation is based on the original cfdisk from Kevin E. Martin (martin@cs.unc.edu).

AVAILABILITY

The cfdisk command is part of the util-linux package and is available from ftp://ftp.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/.