

**NAME**

partx - tell the kernel about the presence and numbering of on-disk partitions

**SYNOPSIS**

```
partx [-a|-d|-P|-r|-s|-u] [-t type] [-n M:N] [-] disk
partx [-a|-d|-P|-r|-s|-u] [-t type] partition [disk]
```

**DESCRIPTION**

Given a device or disk-image, **partx** tries to parse the partition table and list its contents. It can also tell the kernel to add or remove partitions from its bookkeeping.

The *disk* argument is optional when a *partition* argument is provided. To force scanning a partition as if it were a whole disk (for example to list nested subpartitions), use the argument "-" (hyphen-minus). For example:

```
partx --show - /dev/sda3
```

This will see sda3 as a whole-disk rather than as a partition.

**partx is not an fdisk program** – adding and removing partitions does not change the disk, it just tells the kernel about the presence and numbering of on-disk partitions.

**OPTIONS****-a, --add**

Add the specified partitions, or read the disk and add all partitions.

**-b, --bytes**

Print the SIZE column in bytes rather than in human-readable format.

**-d, --delete**

Delete the specified partitions or all partitions.

**-g, --noheadings**

Do not print a header line with **--show** or **--raw**.

**-l, --list** List the partitions. Note that all numbers are in 512-byte sectors. This output format is DEPRECATED in favour of **--show**. Do not use it in newly written scripts.

**-n, --nr *M:N***

Specify the range of partitions. For backward compatibility also the format *M-N* is supported. The range may contain negative numbers, for example **--nr -1:-1** means the last partition, and **--nr -2:-1** means the last two partitions. Supported range specifications are:

*M* Specifies just one partition (e.g. **--nr 3**).

*M*: Specifies the lower limit only (e.g. **--nr 2:**).

:*N* Specifies the upper limit only (e.g. **--nr :4**).

*M:N* Specifies the lower and upper limits (e.g. **--nr 2:4**).

**-o, --output *list***

Define the output columns to use for **--show**, **--pairs** and **--raw** output. If no output arrangement is specified, then a default set is used. Use **--help** to get *list* of all supported columns. This option cannot be combined with the **--add**, **--delete**, **--update** or **--list** options.

**-P, --pairs**

List the partitions using the KEY="value" format.

**-r, --raw**

List the partitions using the raw output format.

**-s, --show**

List the partitions. The output columns can be selected and rearranged with the **--output** option. All numbers (except SIZE) are in 512-byte sectors.

- t, --type *type***  
Specify the partition table type, which can be one of **aix**, **bsd**, **dos**, **gpt**, **mac**, **minix**, **sgi**, **solaris\_x86**, **sun**, **ultrix**, or **unixware**.
- u, --update**  
Update the specified partitions.
- v, --verbose**  
Verbose mode.
- V, --version**  
Display version information and exit.
- h, --help**  
Display help text and exit.

## EXAMPLES

```
partx --show /dev/sdb3
partx --show --nr 3 /dev/sdb
partx --show /dev/sdb3 /dev/sdb
    All three commands list partition 3 of /dev/sdb.

partx --show - /dev/sdb3
    Lists all subpartitions on /dev/sdb3 (the device is used as whole-disk).

partx -o START -g --nr 5 /dev/sdb
    Prints the start sector of partition 5 on /dev/sdb without header.

partx -o SECTORS,SIZE /dev/sda5 /dev/sda
    Lists the length in sectors and human-readable size of partition 5 on /dev/sda.

partx --add --nr 3:5 /dev/sdd
    Adds all available partitions from 3 to 5 (inclusive) on /dev/sdd.

partx -d --nr :1 /dev/sdd
    Removes the last partition on /dev/sdd.
```

## SEE ALSO

[addpart\(8\)](#), [delpart\(8\)](#), [fdisk\(8\)](#), [parted\(8\)](#), [partprobe\(8\)](#)

## AUTHORS

[Davidlohr Bueso](#)  
[Karel Zak](#)

The original version was written by [Andries EBrouwer](#).

## ENVIRONMENT

**LIBBLKID\_DEBUG=all**  
enables libblkid debug output.

## AVAILABILITY

The partx command is part of the util-linux package and is available from [Linux Kernel Archive](#).