## Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'blkdiscard.8' command

**$ man blkdiscard.8**

BLKDISCARD(8)              System Administration              BLKDISCARD(8)

NAME

   blkdiscard - discard sectors on a device

SYNOPSIS

   blkdiscard [options] [-o offset] [-l length] device

DESCRIPTION

   blkdiscard is used to discard device sectors. This is useful for

   solid-state drivers (SSDs) and thinly-provisioned storage. Unlike

   fstrim(8), this command is used directly on the block device.

   By default, blkdiscard will discard all blocks on the device. Options

   may be used to modify this behavior based on range or size, as

   explained below.

   The device argument is the pathname of the block device.

   WARNING: All data in the discarded region on the device will be lost!

OPTIONS

   The offset and length arguments may be followed by the multiplicative

   suffixes 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") or the suffixes KB (=1000), MB (=1000*1000), and so on for

   GB, TB, PB, EB, ZB and YB.

   -f, --force

      Disable all checking. Since v2.36 the block device is open in

      exclusive mode (O_EXCL) by default to avoid collision with mounted

filesystem or another kernel subsystem. The --force option disables

the exclusive access mode.

-o, --offset offset

Byte offset into the device from which to start discarding. The

provided value must be aligned to the device sector size. The

default value is zero.

-l, --length length

The number of bytes to discard (counting from the starting point).

The provided value must be aligned to the device sector size. If

the specified value extends past the end of the device, blkdiscard

will stop at the device size boundary. The default value extends to

the end of the device.

-p, --step length

The number of bytes to discard within one iteration. The default is

to discard all by one ioctl call.

-s, --secure

Perform a secure discard. A secure discard is the same as a regular

discard except that all copies of the discarded blocks that were

possibly created by garbage collection must also be erased. This

requires support from the device.

-z, --zeroout

Zero-fill rather than discard.

-v, --verbose

Display the aligned values of offset and length. If the --step

option is specified, it prints the discard progress every second.

-V, --version

Display version information and exit.

-h, --help

Display help text and exit.

# AUTHORS

Lukas Czerner <lczerner@redhat.com>

# SEE ALSO

fstrim(8)

## REPORTING BUGS

For bug reports, use the issue tracker at

https://github.com/karelzak/util-linux/issues.

## AVAILABILITY

The blkdiscard command is part of the util-linux package which can be

downloaded from Linux Kernel Archive

<https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/>.

util-linux 2.37.4          2022-02-14          BLKDISCARD(8)