

NAME

hd – MFM/IDE hard disk devices

DESCRIPTION

The **hd*** devices are block devices to access MFM/IDE hard disk drives in raw mode. The master drive on the primary IDE controller (major device number 3) is **hda**; the slave drive is **hdb**. The master drive of the second controller (major device number 22) is **hdc** and the slave is **hdd**.

General IDE block device names have the form **hdX**, or **hdXP**, where *X* is a letter denoting the physical drive, and *P* is a number denoting the partition on that physical drive. The first form, **hdX**, is used to address the whole drive. Partition numbers are assigned in the order the partitions are discovered, and only nonempty, nonextended partitions get a number. However, partition numbers 1–4 are given to the four partitions described in the MBR (the "primary" partitions), regardless of whether they are unused or extended. Thus, the first logical partition will be **hdX5**. Both DOS-type partitioning and BSD-disklabel partitioning are supported. You can have at most 63 partitions on an IDE disk.

For example, */dev/hda* refers to all of the first IDE drive in the system; and */dev/hdb3* refers to the third DOS "primary" partition on the second one.

They are typically created by:

```
mknod -m 660 /dev/hda b 3 0
mknod -m 660 /dev/hda1 b 3 1
mknod -m 660 /dev/hda2 b 3 2
...
mknod -m 660 /dev/hda8 b 3 8
mknod -m 660 /dev/hdb b 3 64
mknod -m 660 /dev/hdb1 b 3 65
mknod -m 660 /dev/hdb2 b 3 66
...
mknod -m 660 /dev/hdb8 b 3 72
chown root:disk /dev/hd*
```

FILES

*/dev/hd**

SEE ALSO

chown(1), **mknod(1)**, **sd(4)**, **mount(8)**

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.05 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.