

Boot a USB Flash Drive in VirtualBox

Edits and PDF version by **Sirus**

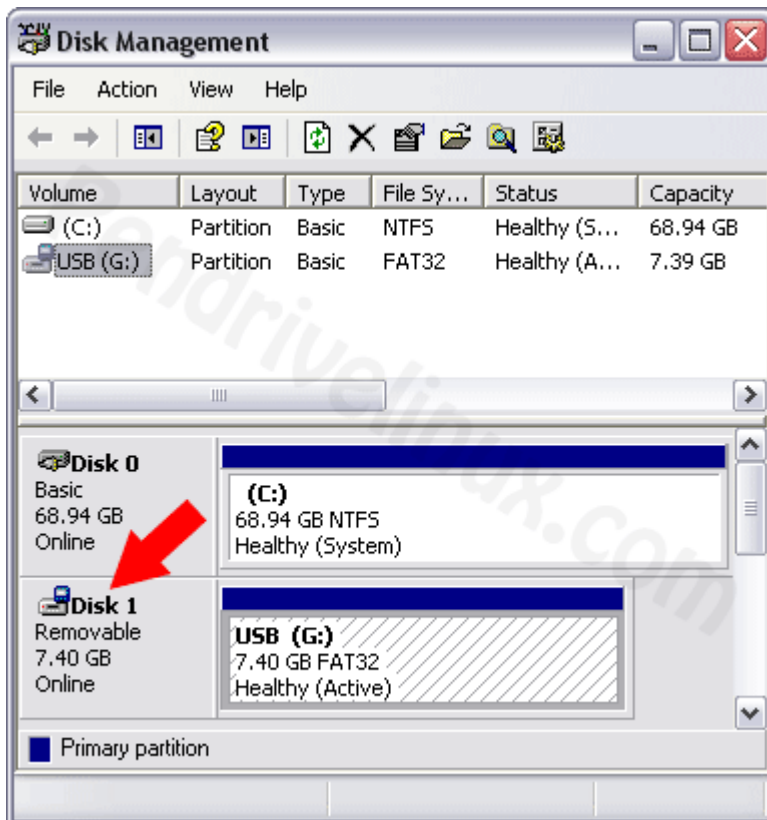
v. 1.00

Source: <http://www.pendrivelinux.com/boot-a-usb-flash-drive-in-virtualbox/>

Here's how to boot from a **USB Flash Drive** in **VirtualBox**. This process allows you to boot a USB Flash Drive or an external hard drive while still working on your computer. By default VirtualBox can't boot from USB, thus, this how-to. This can be done though, by mapping a virtual machine to the USB Flash Drive.

STEPS

1. Have VirtualBox installed (<https://www.virtualbox.org/>)
2. **A.** Click **Start > Run** Type **diskmgmt.msc** and click **OK** (Vista/Win7: use **Start** , and type it in the **Search Box**)
B. Locate your USB Disk number (Fig.1)



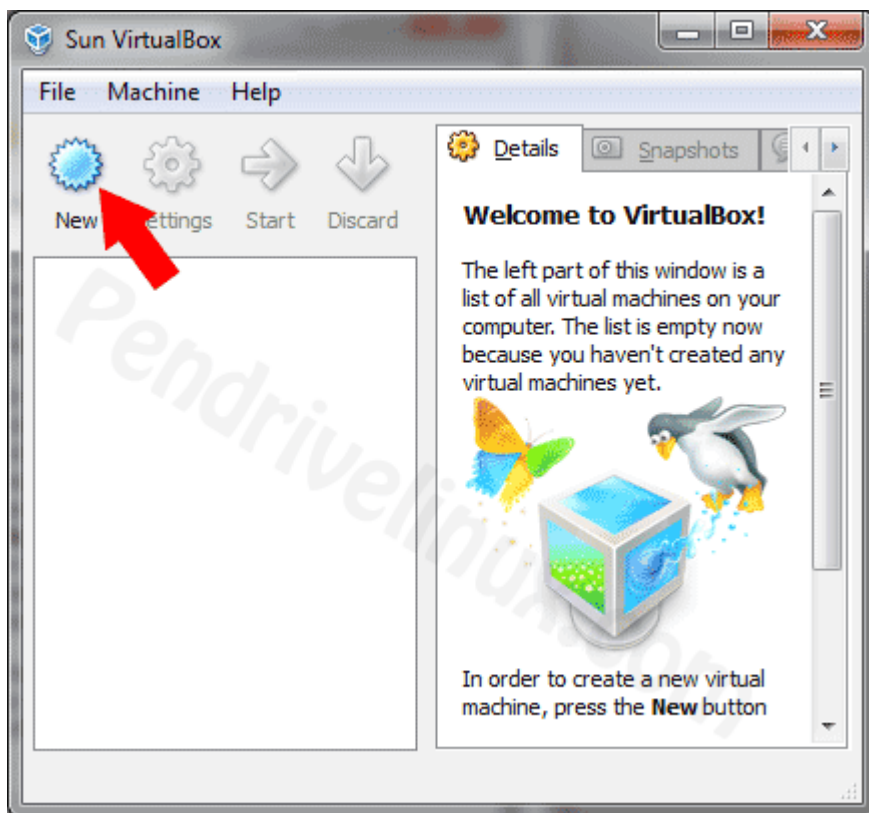
[Fig.1]

3. Open a command prompt (Win+R) **cmd.exe** (run as admin in Vista/Win7)
4. Type **cd %programfiles%\oracle\virtualbox**

5. Type ALL of the following command, replacing the "#" with your USB Disk's number (from **step 2**) :

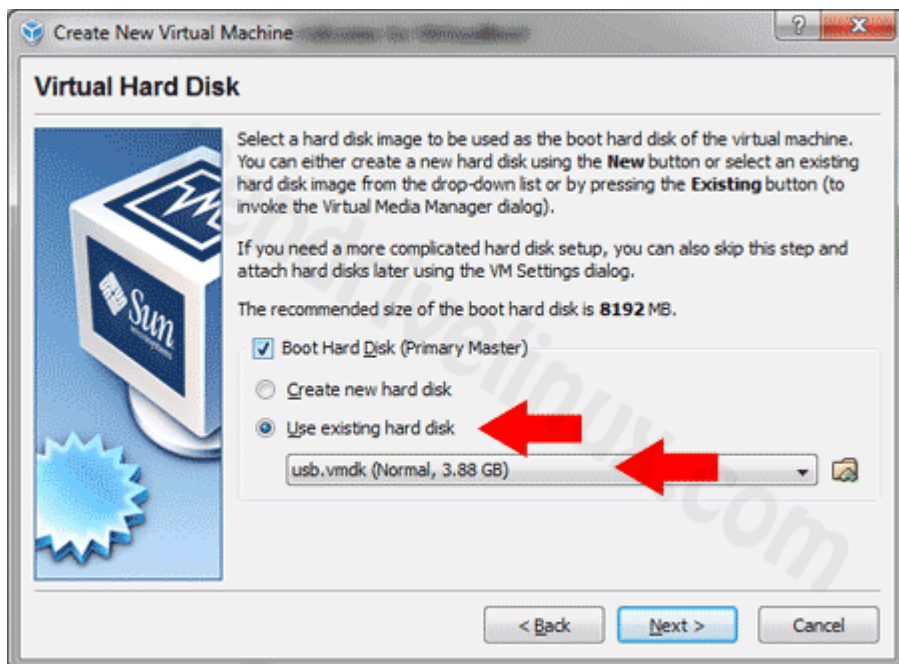
```
VBoxManage internalcommands createrawvmdk -filename "%USERPROFILE%\VirtualBox\usb.vmdk -rawdisk \\.\PhysicalDrive#
```

6. **Start VirtualBox** (run as admin in Vista/Win7) and create a New Virtual Machine.



[Fig.2]

7. When prompted for a **hard disk image**, tick "Use existing hard disk" and select "usb.vmdk" (from **step 5**)



[Fig.3]

8. Once you've creating your Virtual Machine, click **Start**



[Fig.4]

If all goes well, VirtualBox can now boot from your USB drive emulated from within Windows!

Enjoy!

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