

Creating an OS4 Ramdisk

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1. Introduction

The Ramdisk was a concept originally used in the 80's upon the invention of the AmigaOS and used in the RiscOS. What is a Ramdisk? A Ramdsk is part of your main memory, Ram (Random Access Memory), and can be used as physical hard drive space. This allowed users to temporarily store files and those files would be deleted upon reboot. So in 2013 are Ramdisks still useful? The answer is yes. There are several uses for a Ramdisk. One example would be a Kiosk machine, this way if users come along and download files or change settings a simple reboot would all that is required to clear user data and unwanted files.

II. Create a Ramdisk

When you create a ramdisk you have to make sure you dont create one that exceeds the amount of free RAM thats available for your system. My method is that I use 20% of the amount of RAM in your system, nothing more but you can make that determination on your own. So to create a Ramdisk, these are the commands you will use.

mkdir -p /tmp/ram sudo mount -t tmpfs -o size=512M tmpfs /tmp/ram/

So basically, here is how the commands break down. You are creating a directory called /tmp/ram. The size of the disk is 512mb.

So thats how a Ramdisk is created.