# Creating a Unique Partition ID with fdisk

## Symptom

Message received:

```
Can not back up /dev/sdb partition since /dev/sda partition has the same identifier.
```

## Cause

fdisk does not correctly write the partition ID when partitioning a disk.

> **Note**
> CDP requires all partitions to have a unique ID even if the partition has not been selected as a Device in the Disk Safe for replication.

## Resolution

A unique partition ID must be created.

> **Warning**
> This is a dangerous operation. Make sure all data has been backed up before changing any partition information on your disk. A failure in changing partition data can make the machine unbootable.

> **Note**
> Some operating systems such as RHEL 5 and Centos use an older version of fdisk contained in the util-linux package, which does not include the ability to change the partition identifier. The util-linux package has been replaced in more updated operating systems with the util-linux-ng package. In these cases you would need to manually upgrade the fdisk utility.

```
# fdisk /dev/sdb  (enter the correct disk identifier assigned by Linux)
fdisk> x (for advanced)
fdisk> i (for create partition id)
```

**(Enter in an arbitrary number)**
**fdisk> w (to save and exit)**

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