

Extend the Windows RE Partition

[Resize_script.ps1](#)

The sample script below can be used to increase the size of recovery partition to successfully update Windows Recovery Environment (WinRE). It is recommended to have 250MB of free space in the recovery partition for WinRE updates to install successfully. On devices that may not have adequate free space in the recovery partition, the sample script below can be used to extend the recovery partition by 250 MB.

Reboot your machine before you run the script. This is critical as there may be pending partition operations staged on your machine that will need to be finalized before the script can safely increase the WinRE partition size. After your machine reboots open Powershell as admin and run **mkdir <path to new backup directory>** to create a backup directory that the script may use in case of failure to restore the original partition. Note the location of this backup directory as the script will ask for your backup path. If you are deploying this at scale, you can bypass the script prompting by using the parameters

```
-SkipConfirmation $true -BackupFolder
```

For example,

```
Resize_script.ps1 -SkipConfirmation $true -BackupFolder c:\winre_backup
```

```
Param (  
  [Parameter(Mandatory=$false,HelpMessage="Skip confirmation")] [bool]$SkipConfirmation=$false,  
  [Parameter(Mandatory=$true,HelpMessage="Path to backup old WinRE partition content  
to")] [string]$BackupFolder  
)  
# -----  
# Helper functions  
# -----
```

```

# Log message
function LogMessage([string]$message)
{
    [message = "$message"
    [Write-Host $message
}
# Extract numbers from string
function ExtractNumbers([string]$str)
{
    [cleanString = $str -replace "[^0-9]"
    [return [long]$cleanString
}
# Display partition info using fsutil
# Return an array, the first value is total size and the second value is free space
function DisplayPartitionInfo([string[]]$partitionPath)
{
    [volume = Get-WmiObject -Class Win32_Volume | Where-Object { $partitionPath -contains
    $_.DeviceID }
    [LogMessage(" Partition capacity: " + $volume.Capacity)
    [LogMessage(" Partition free space: " + $volume.FreeSpace)
    [return $volume.Capacity, $volume.FreeSpace
}
# Display WinRE status
function DisplayWinREStatus()
{
    [# Get WinRE partition info
    [WinREInfo = Reagentc /info
    [foreach ($line in $WinREInfo)
    {
        [params = $line.Split(':')
        [if ($params.Count -lt 2)
        {
            [continue
        }
        [if (($params[1].Trim() -ieq "Enabled") -Or (($params[1].Trim() -ieq "Disabled")))
        {
            [Status = $params[1].Trim() -ieq "Enabled"
            [LogMessage($line.Trim())
        }
        [if ($params[1].Trim() -like "\\?\GLOBALROOT*")

```



```

[]LogMessage("Error: ReAgent.xml cannot be found")
[]exit 1
}
# Get OS partition
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("Collecting OS and WinRE partition info...")
$OSDrive = $system32Path.Substring(0,1)
$OSPartition = Get-Partition -DriveLetter $OSDrive
# Get WinRE partition
$WinRELocationItems = $WinRELocation.Split('\')
foreach ($item in $WinRELocationItems)
{
    if ($item -like "harddisk*")
    []{
        []$OSDiskIndex = ExtractNumbers($item)
        []}
        []if ($item -like "partition*")
        []{
            []$WinREPartitionIndex = ExtractNumbers($item)
            []}
        }
    LogMessage("OS Disk: " + $OSDiskIndex)
    LogMessage("OS Partition: " + $OSPartition.PartitionNumber)
    LogMessage("WinRE Partition: " + $WinREPartitionIndex)
    $WinREPartition = Get-Partition -DiskNumber $OSDiskIndex -PartitionNumber $WinREPartitionIndex
    $diskInfo = Get-Disk -number $OSDiskIndex
    $diskType = $diskInfo.PartitionStyle
    LogMessage("Disk PartitionStyle: " + $diskType)
    # Display WinRE partition size info
    LogMessage("WinRE partition size info")
    $WinREPartitionSizeInfo = DisplayPartitionInfo($WinREPartition.AccessPaths)
    LogMessage("WinRE Partition Offset: " + $WinREPartition.Offset)
    LogMessage("WinRE Partition Type: " + $WinREPartition.Type)
    LogMessage("OS partition size: " + $OSPartition.Size)
    LogMessage("OS partition Offset: " + $OSPartition.Offset)
    $OSPartitionEnds = $OSPartition.Offset + $OSPartition.Size
    LogMessage("OS partition ends at: " + $OSPartitionEnds)
    LogMessage("WinRE partition starts at: " + $WinREPartition.Offset)
    $WinREIsOnSystemPartition = $false
    if ($diskType -ieq "MBR")

```

```

{
  if ($WinREPartition.IsActive)
  {
    LogMessage("WinRE is on System partition")
    $WinREIsOnSystemPartition = $true
  }
}

if ($diskType -ieq "GPT")
{
  if ($WinREPartition.Type -ieq "System")
  {
    LogMessage("WinRE is on System partition")
    $WinREIsOnSystemPartition = $true
  }
}

# Checking the BackupFolder parameter
if ($PSBoundParameters.ContainsKey('BackupFolder'))
{
  LogMessage("")
  LogMessage("Backup Directory: [" + $BackupFolder + "]")
  $Needbackup = $true

  if ($WinREIsOnSystemPartition)
  {
    $Needbackup = $false
    LogMessage("WinRE is on System partition which will be preserved. No need to backup content")
  }
  else
  {
    if (Test-path $BackupFolder)
    {
      $items = Get-ChildItem -Path $BackupFolder
      if ($items)
      {
        LogMessage("Error: Existing backup directory is not empty")
        exit 1
      }
    }
  }
  else

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}
    LogMessage("Creating backup directory...")
    try
    {
        $item = New-Item -Path $BackupFolder -ItemType Directory -ErrorAction Stop
        if ($item)
        {
            LogMessage("Backup directory created")
        }
        else
        {
            LogMessage("Error: Failed to create backup directory [" + $BackupFolder + "]")
            exit 1
        }
    } catch
    {
        LogMessage("Error: An error occurred: $_")
        exit 1
    }
}
# -----
# Verify whether we meet requirements of execution
# - WinRE cannot be on OS partition for the extension
# - WinRE partition must be the next partition after OS partition
# - If WinRE partition already have >=250MB free space, no need to do repartition
# - If there is enough unallocated space to grow the WinRE partition size, skip shrinking OS
#
# However, if the WinRE partition is before the OS partition, there is no chance to extend it
# As a result, it's better to create a new WinRE partition after the OS partition
# -----
# Perform a few checks
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("Verifying if the WinRE partition needs to be extended or not...")
if (!(($diskType -ieq "MBR") -Or ($diskType -ieq "GPT")))
{
    LogMessage("Error: Got an unexpected disk partition style: " + $diskType)
    exit 1
}

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# WinRE partition must be after OS partition for the repartition
if ($WinREPartitionIndex -eq $OSPartition.PartitionNumber)
{
    [LogMessage("WinRE and OS are on the same partition, should not perform extension")]
    [exit 0]
}
$supportedSize = Get-PartitionSupportedSize -DriveLetter $OSDrive
# if there is enough free space, skip extension
if ($WinREPartitionSizeInfo[1] -ge 250MB)
{
    [LogMessage("More than 250 MB of free space was detected in the WinRE partition, there is no
need to extend the partition")]
    [exit 0]
}
if ($WinREPartition.Offset -lt $OSPartitionEnds)
{
    [LogMessage("WinRE partition is not after OS partition, cannot perform extension")]
    [LogMessage("Need to create a new WinRE partition after OS partition")]
    [$NeedCreateNew = $true]
    [$NeedShrink = $true]
}
# Calculate the size of repartition
# Will create a new WinRE partition with current WinRE partition size + 250 MB
# The OS partition size will be shrunk by the new WinRE partition size
$targetWinREPartitionSize = $WinREPartitionSizeInfo[0] + 250MB
$shrinkSize = [Math]::Ceiling($targetWinREPartitionSize / 1MB) * 1MB
$targetOSPartitionSize = $OSPartition.Size - $shrinkSize
if ($targetOSPartitionSize -lt $supportedSize.SizeMin)
{
    [LogMessage("Error: The target OS partition size after shrinking is smaller than the supported
minimum size, cannot perform the repartition")]
    [exit 1]
}
}
else
{
    if ($WinREIsOnSystemPartition)
    {
        [LogMessage("WinRE parititon is after the OS partition and it's also System partition")]
        [LogMessage("Error: Got unexpected disk layout, cannot proceed")]
    }
}
}

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    exit 1
}
if (!(($WinREPartitionIndex -eq ($OSPartition.PartitionNumber + 1)))
{
    LogMessage("Error: WinRE partition is not right after the OS partition, cannot extend WinRE
partition")
    exit 1
}
# Calculate the size of repartition
# Will shrink OS partition by 250 MB
$shrinkSize = 250MB
$targetOSPartitionSize = $OSPartition.Size - $shrinkSize
$targetWinREPartitionSize = $WinREPartitionSizeInfo[0] + 250MB
$UnallocatedSpace = $WinREPartition.Offset - $OSPartitionEnds;
# If there is unallocated space, consider using it
if ($UnallocatedSpace -ge 250MB)
{
    $UnallocatedSpace = $WinREPartition.Offset - $OSPartitionEnds;
    LogMessage("Found unallocated space between OS and WinRE partition: " + $UnallocatedSpace)
    LogMessage("There is already enough space to extend WinRE partition without shrinking the OS
partition")
    $NeedShrink = $false
    $targetOSPartitionSize = 0
}
else
{
    $shrinkSize = [Math]::Ceiling((250MB - $UnallocatedSpace)/ 1MB) * 1MB
    if ($shrinkSize > 250MB)
    {
        $shrinkSize = 250MB
    }
    $targetOSPartitionSize = $OSPartition.Size - $shrinkSize
    if ($targetOSPartitionSize -lt $supportedSize.SizeMin)
    {
        LogMessage("Error: The target OS partition size after shrinking is smaller than the supported
minimum size, cannot perform the repartition")
        exit 1
    }
}
}
}

```

```

# -----
# Report execution plan and ask for user confirmation to continue
# -----
# Report the changes planned to be executed, waiting for user confirmation
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("Summary of proposed changes")
if ($NeedCreateNew)
{
[]LogMessage("Note: WinRE partition is before OS partition, need to create a new WinRE partition
after OS partition")
[]LogMessage("Will shrink OS partition by " + $shrinkSize)
[]LogMessage(" Current OS partition size: " + $OSPartition.Size)
[]LogMessage(" Target OS partition size after shrinking: " + $targetOSPartitionSize)
[]LogMessage("New WinRE partition will be created with size: ", $targetWinREPartitionSize)
[]if ($WinREIsOnSystemPartition)
[]{
[][]LogMessage("Existing WinRE partition is also system partition, it will be preserved")
[]}
[]else
[]{
[][]LogMessage("Existing WinRE partition will be deleted")
[][]LogMessage(" WinRE partition: Disk [" + $OSDiskIndex + "] Partition [" + $WinREPartitionIndex
+ "]")
[][]LogMessage(" Current WinRE partition size: " + $WinREPartitionSizeInfo[0])
[]}
}
else
{
[]if ($NeedShrink)
[]{
[][]LogMessage("Will shrink OS partition by " + $shrinkSize)
[][]LogMessage(" Current OS partition size: " + $OSPartition.Size)
[][]LogMessage(" Target OS partition size after shrinking: " + $targetOSPartitionSize)
[][]if ($UnallocatedSpace -ge 0)
[][]{
[][][]LogMessage("Unallocated space between OS and WinRE partition that will be used towards the new
WinRE partition: " + $UnallocatedSpace)
[][]}
[]}
[]else

```

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[]{
[]LogMessage("Will use 250MB from unallocated space between OS and WinRE partition")
[]}
[]LogMessage("Will extend WinRE partition size by 250MB")
[]LogMessage(" WinRE partition: Disk [" + $OSDiskIndex + "] Partition [" + $WinREPartitionIndex
+ "]")
[]LogMessage(" Current WinRE partition size: " + $WinREPartitionSizeInfo[0])
[]LogMessage(" New WinRE partition size: " + $targetWinREPartitionSize)
[]LogMessage("WinRE will be temporarily disabled before extending the WinRE partition and
enabled automatically in the end")
[]if ($UnallocatedSpace -ge 100MB)
[]{
[]LogMessage("Warning: More than 100MB of unallocated space was detected between the OS and
WinRE partitions")
[]LogMessage("Would you like to proceed by using the unallocated space between the OS and the
WinRE partitions?")
[]}
}
if ($Needbackup)
{
[]LogMessage("")
[]LogMessage("The contents of the old WinRE partition will be backed up to [" + $BackupFolder +
]")")
}
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("Please reboot the device before running this script to ensure any pending
partition actions are finalized")
LogMessage("")
if ($SkipConfirmation)
{
[]LogMessage("User chose to skip confirmation")
[]LogMessage("Proceeding with changes...")
}
else
{
[]$userInput = Read-Host -Prompt "Would you like to proceed? Y for Yes and N for No"
[]
[]if ($userInput -ieq "Y")
[]{
[]LogMessage("Proceeding with changes...")

```

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[]}
[]elseif ($userInput -ieq "N")
[]{
[]LogMessage("Canceling based on user request, no changes were made to the system")
[]exit 0
[]}
[]else
[]{
[]LogMessage("Error: Unexpected user input: [" + $userInput + "]")
[]exit 0
[]}
}
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("Note: To prevent unexpected results, please do not interrupt the execution or
restart your system")
# -----
# Do the actual execution
# The main flow is:
# 1. Check whether ReAgent.xml has stage location and clear it for repartition
# 2. Disable WinRE as WinRE partition will be deleted
# 3. Perform the repartition to create a larger WinRE partition
# 4. Re-enable WinRE
# -----
LogMessage("")
# Load ReAgent.xml to clear Stage location
LogMessage("Loading [" + $ReAgentXmlPath + "] ...")
$xml = [xml](Get-Content -Path $ReAgentXmlPath)
$node = $xml.WindowsRE.ImageLocation
if (($node.path -eq "") -And ($node.guid -eq "{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}") -And
($node.offset -eq "0") -And ($node.id -eq "0"))
{
[]LogMessage("Stage location info is empty")
}
else
{
[]LogMessage("Clearing stage location info...")
[]$node.path = ""
[]$node.offset = "0"
[]$node.guid= "{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}"
[]$node.id="0"

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[]# Save the change
[]LogMessage("Saving changes to [" + $ReAgentXmlPath + "]...")
[]$xml.Save($ReAgentXmlPath)
}
# Disable WinRE
LogMessage("Disabling WinRE...")
reagentc /disable
if (!$LASTEXITCODE -eq 0)
{
[]LogMessage("Warning: encountered an error when disabling WinRE: " + $LASTEXITCODE)
[]exit $LASTEXITCODE
}
# Verify WinRE is under C:\Windows\System32\Recovery\WinRE.wim
$disableWinREPath = Join-Path -Path $system32Path -ChildPath "\Recovery\WinRE.wim"
LogMessage("Verifying that WinRE wim exists in downlevel at default location")
if (!(Test-Path $disableWinREPath))
{
[]LogMessage("Error: Cannot find " + $disableWinREPath)
[]
[]# Re-enable WinRE
[]LogMessage("Re-enabling WinRE on error...")
[]reagentc /enable
[]if (!$LASTEXITCODE -eq 0)
[]{
[][]LogMessage("Warning: encountered an error when enabling WinRE: " + $LASTEXITCODE)
[]}
[]exit 1
}
# -----
# Perform the repartition
# 1. Resize the OS partition
# 2. Delete the WinRE partition
# 3. Create a new WinRE partition
# -----
LogMessage("Performing repartition to extend the WinRE partition ...")
# 1. Resize the OS partition
if ($NeedShrink)
{
[]LogMessage("Shrinking the OS partition to create a larger WinRE partition")
[]LogMessage("Resizing the OS partition to: [" + $targetOSPartitionSize + "]...")

```

```

[]Resize-Partition -DriveLetter $OSDrive -Size $targetOSPartitionSize
[]if ($Error.Count -gt 0) {
[]  []LogMessage("Error: Resize-Partition encountered errors: " + $Error[0].Exception.Message)
[]  []
[]  []# Re-enable WinRE
[]  []LogMessage("Re-enabling WinRE on error...")
[]  []reagentc /enable
[]  []if (!$LASTEXITCODE -eq 0))
[]  []{
[]    []LogMessage("Warning: encountered an error when enabling WinRE: " + $LASTEXITCODE)
[]  []}
[]  []exit 1
[]}
[]$OSPartitionAfterShrink = Get-Partition -DriveLetter $OSDrive
[]LogMessage("Target partition size: " + $targetOSPartitionSize)
[]LogMessage("Size of OS partition after shrinking: " + $OSPartitionAfterShrink.Size)
}
# 2. Delete the WinRE partition
LogMessage("")
if ($WinREIsOnSystemPartition)
{
[]LogMessage("Existing WinRE partition is System partition, skipping deletion")
}
else
{
[]# If requested by user, backup rest of the content on WinRE partition to backup directory
[]if ($Needbackup)
[]{
[]  []$sourcePath = $WinREPartition.AccessPaths[0]
[]  []LogMessage("Copying content on WinRE partition from [" + $sourcePath + "] to [" +
[]  []$BackupFolder + "]...")
[]  []
[]  []# Copy-Item may have access issue with certain system folders, enumerate the children items
[]  []and exlcude them
[]  []$items = Get-ChildItem -LiteralPath $sourcePath -Force
[]  []foreach ($item in $items)
[]  []{
[]    []if ($item.Name -ieq "System Volume Information")
[]    []{
[]      []continue

```



```

[]LogMessage("Formating the partition...")
[]$result = Format-Volume -Partition $partition -FileSystem NTFS -Confirm:$false
[]if ($Error.Count -gt 0) {
[]LogMessage("Error: Format-Volume encountered errors: " + $Error[0].Exception.Message)
[]exit 1
[]}
}
else
{
[]#$partition = New-Partition -DiskNumber $OSDiskIndex -Size $targetWinREPartitionSize -MbrType
0x27
[]$targetWinREPartitionSizeInMb = [int]($targetWinREPartitionSize/1MB)
[]$diskpartScript =
@"
select disk $OSDiskIndex
create partition primary size=$targetWinREPartitionSizeInMb id=27
format quick fs=ntfs label="Recovery"
set id=27
"@
[]$TempPath = $env:Temp
[]$diskpartScriptFile = Join-Path -Path $TempPath -ChildPath
"\ExtendWinRE_MBR_PowershellScript.txt"
[]
[]LogMessage("Creating temporary diskpart script to create Recovery partition on MBR disk...")
[]LogMessage("Temporary diskpart script file: " + $diskpartScriptFile)
[]$diskpartScript | Out-File -FilePath $diskpartScriptFile -Encoding ascii
[]
[]LogMessage("Executing diskpart script...")
[]try
[]{
[]$diskpartOutput = diskpart /s $diskpartScriptFile
[]
[]if ($diskpartOutput -match "DiskPart successfully")
[]{
[]LogMessage("Diskpart script executed successfully")
[]}
[]else
[]{
[]LogMessage("Error executing diskpart script:" + $diskpartOutput)
[]exit 1

```

```

    }
    LogMessage("Deleting temporary diskpart script file...")
    Remove-Item $diskpartScriptFile
}
catch
{
    LogMessage("Error executing diskpart script: $_")
    exit 1
}
$vol = Get-Volume -FileSystemLabel "Recovery"
$newPartitionIndex = (Get-Partition | Where-Object { $_.AccessPaths -contains $vol.Path }
).PartitionNumber
}
if ($Error.Count -gt 0)
{
    LogMessage("Error: New-Partition encountered errors: " + $Error[0].Exception.Message)
    exit 1
}
LogMessage("New Partition index: " + $newPartitionIndex)
# Re-enable WinRE
LogMessage("Re-enabling WinRE...")
reagentc /enable
if (!$LASTEXITCODE -eq 0)
{
    LogMessage("Warning: encountered an error when enabling WinRE: " + $LASTEXITCODE)
    exit $LASTEXITCODE
}
# In the end, Display WinRE status to verify WinRE is enabled correctly
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("WinRE Information:")
$FinalWinREStatus = DisplayWinREStatus
$WinREStatus = $FinalWinREStatus[0]
$WinRELocation = $FinalWinREStatus[1]
if (!$WinREStatus)
{
    LogMessage("Warning: WinRE Disabled")
}
$WinRELocationItems = $WinRELocation.Split('\')
foreach ($item in $WinRELocationItems)

```

```
{
  if ($item -like "partition*")
  {
    $WinREPartitionIndex = ExtractNumbers($item)
  }
}

LogMessage("WinRE Partition Index: " + $WinREPartitionIndex)
$WinREPartition = Get-Partition -DiskNumber $OSDiskIndex -PartitionNumber $WinREPartitionIndex
$WinREPartitionSizeInfoAfter = DisplayPartitionInfo($WinREPartition.AccessPaths)
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("OS Information:")
$OSPartition = Get-Partition -DriveLetter $OSDrive
LogMessage("OS partition size: " + $OSPartition.Size)
LogMessage("OS partition Offset: " + $OSPartition.Offset)
if (!$WinREPartitionIndex -eq $newPartitionIndex)
{
  LogMessage("Warning: WinRE is installed to partition [" + $WinREPartitionIndex +"], but the
  newly created Recovery partition is [" + $newPartitionIndex + "]")
}
LogMessage("End time: $($([DateTime]::Now)")
if ($NeedBackup)
{
  LogMessage("")
  LogMessage("The contents of the old WinRE partition has been backed up to [" + $BackupFolder +
  "]")
}
LogMessage("")
LogMessage("Successfully completed the operation")
```

Revision #2

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