

# Partition Question ...

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[John Johnston](#) 2 posts since

Nov 14, 2007

I am installing a single ESX 3.5 server into a remote office. The ESX server will be connected to an AX4 SAN, with approximately 3.5 TB usable space. The ESX server will support a single Windows 2003 server with three partitions, as follows:

C: - 25 GB

D: - 800 GB

E: - 250 GB

What is the best practice regarding the guest partition configuration in a situation as described above? Is it better to use 1 large virtual disk, or three smaller ones, or does it make any difference?

Thank you.



[RParker](#) 5,270 posts since

Dec 6, 2006 **1. Re: Partition Question** Jan 6, 2009 3:52 PM

What is the best practice regarding the guest partition configuration in a situation as described above? Is it better to use 1 **large virtual disk**, or three smaller ones, or does it make any difference?

**1 large virtual disk**

Not really any difference since your VM will have only 1 SCSI controller virtualized on one HBA on the ESX host, so performance wise and sanity it's better to just have 1 disk partitioned... but I question why you are partitioning in the first place. I am never a fan of partitioning...



[whynotq](#) 759 posts since

Mar 2, 2005 **2. Re: Partition Question** Jan 6, 2009 11:17 PM

my personal preference is not to have a VMFS above 500 G, i'd consider using RDM for the D & E drives but it will also be dictated by your backup method as to what gives most resilience and recovery.