

Linux Encrypted File System: Ubuntu

NOTE: These steps should only be followed if you plan to use a single hard drive and Ubuntu will be your only operating system.

1. Begin by booting to the alternate (text-based) installation CD (available at <http://www.ubuntu.com/getubuntu/downloadmirrors>).



2. When you get to the screen on which you select the partition method, choose “Guided – use entire disk and set up encrypted LVM.”

[!!] Partition disks

The installer can guide you through partitioning a disk (using different standard schemes) or, if you prefer, you can do it manually. With guided partitioning you will still have a chance later to review and customise the results.

If you choose guided partitioning for an entire disk, you will next be asked which disk should be used.

Partitioning method:

Guided - use entire disk

Guided - use entire disk and set up LVM

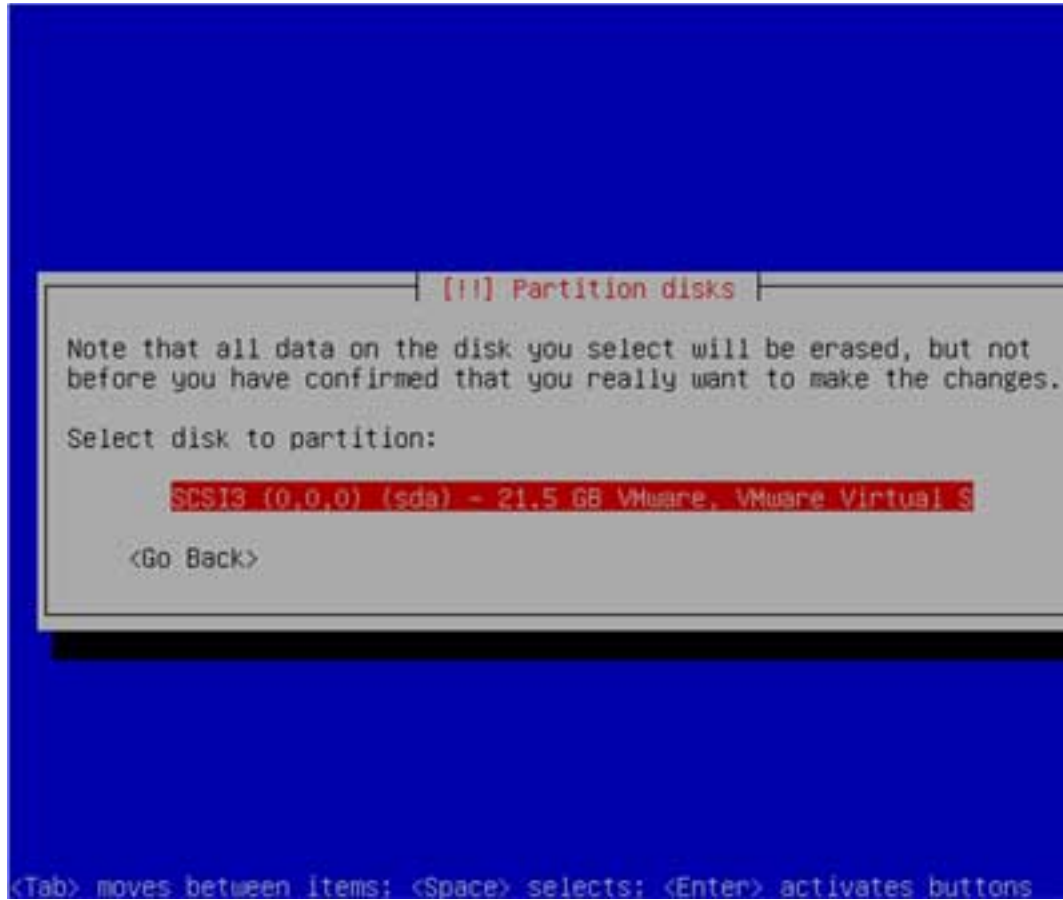
Guided - use entire disk and set up encrypted LVM

Manual

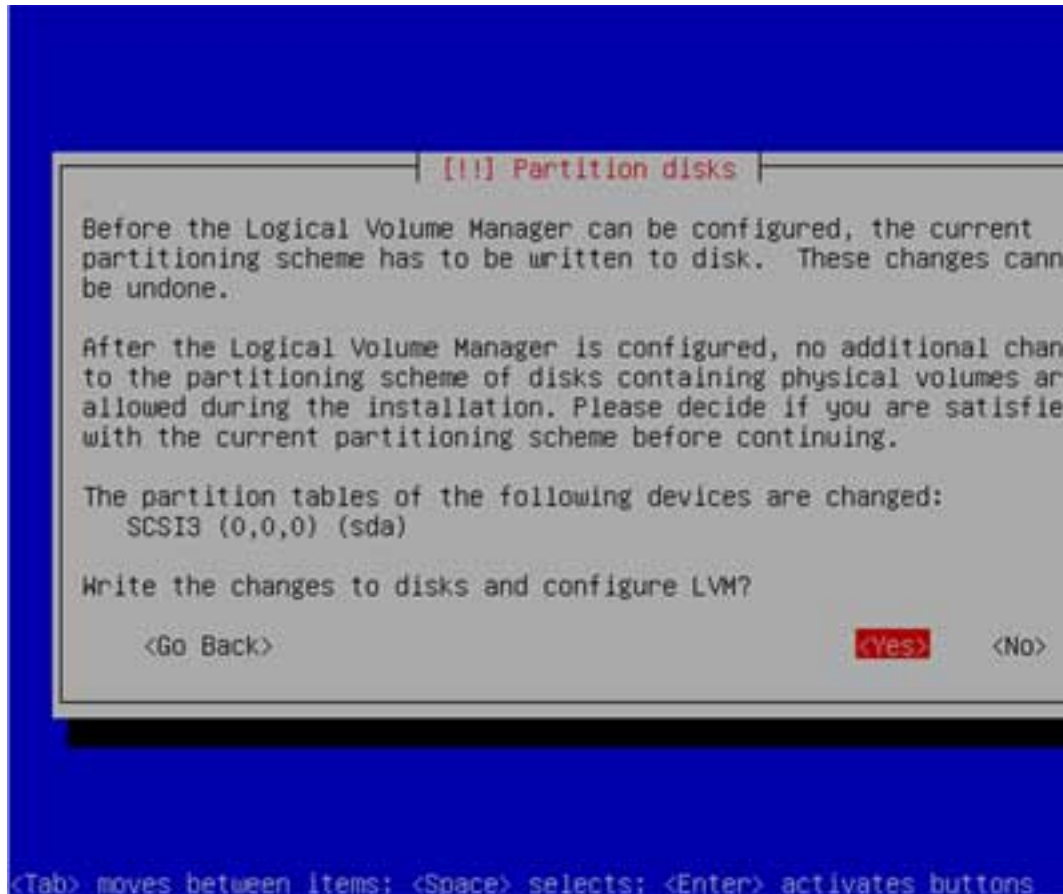
<Go Back>

<Tab> moves between items; <Space> selects; <Enter> activates buttons

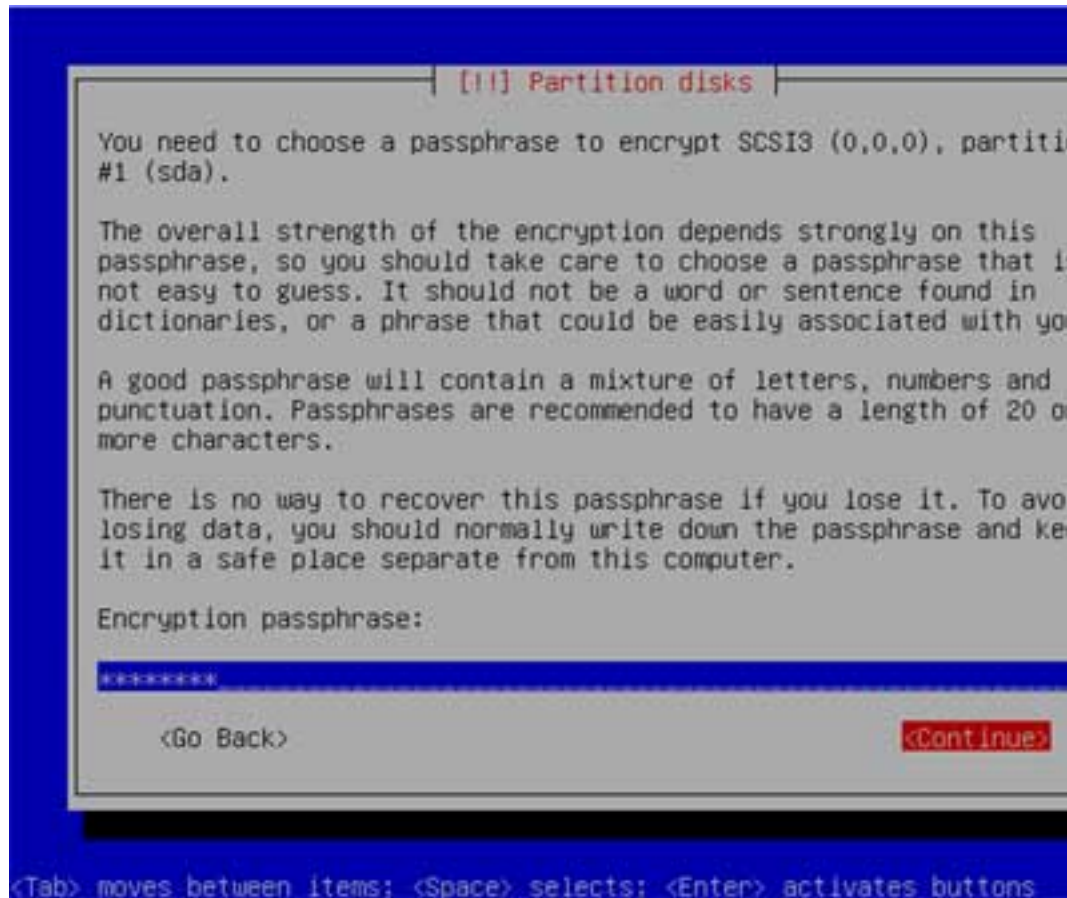
3. Select the disk to partition.



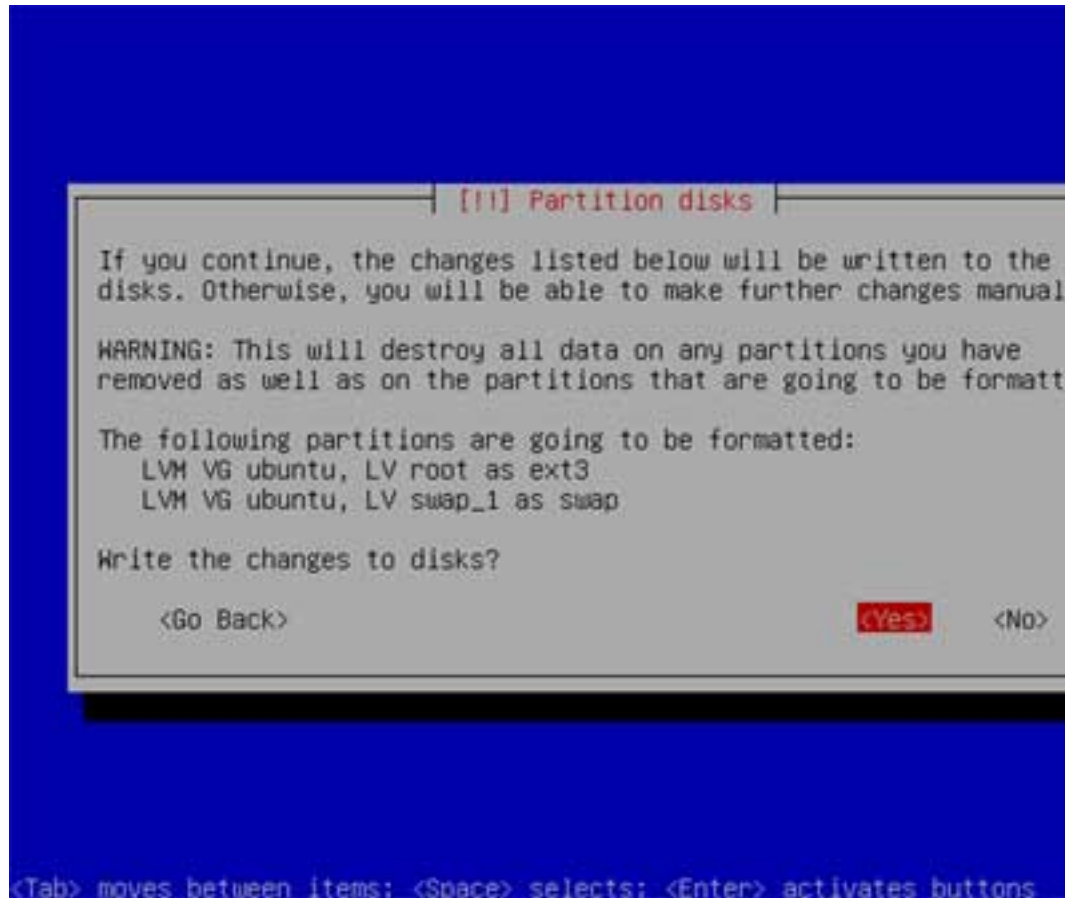
4. Choose "Yes" when asked to "Write the changes to disks and configure LVM?"



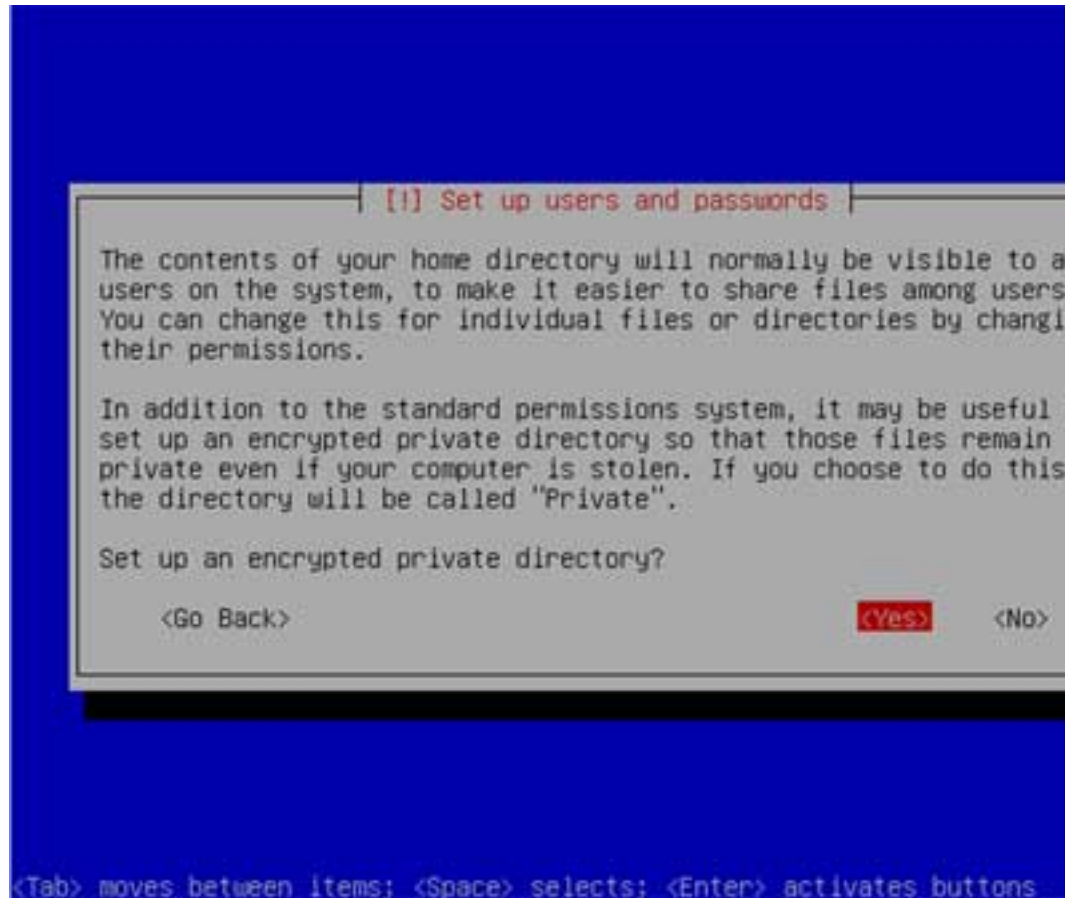
5. When you arrive at the screen indicating “You need to choose a passphrase to encrypt...,” you will need to create a passphrase that will be used to unlock the drive. If the passphrase you select is under 8 characters you will receive a warning that the passphrase is weak. After this password is set, it cannot be recovered so make sure that you memorize the password or write it down and store it in a secure location.



6. Choose "Yes" when asked to "Write the changes to disks?"



7. You can choose to create an encrypted Home directory at this step. If you do choose to encrypt your home directory, you can set a different password from the whole disk passphrase or you can choose to use the same password for both.



8. When you boot the computer you will notice that the drive will not boot or be accessible until a passphrase is provided. Authenticate and press enter to resume the boot process.



9. Once the operating system loads and you login, you will notice that the Private drive mounts automatically if you set the same password for the drive and login.

