Copy Linux to a new Harddisk

In the following howto i assume that sda is your source drive and sdb is your target drive.. please make sure not to mix this up in your setup! also i assume that your operating system disk has three partitions, sda1 as /boot, sda2 as swap and sda3 as /

- stop any running services like apache, mysql etc. on the source system. or even better, boot from a live linux and work from there..
- partition and format the new harddisk
  - parted /dev/sda –> print shows the current partitions of sda including their sizes.. that should help :)
- create mountpoints for source and target

```
mkdir /tmp/source
mkdir /tmp/target
```

- mount source and targed partitions:

```
mount /dev/sda3 /tmp/source
mount /dev/sda1 /tmp/source/boot
mount /dev/sdb3 /tmp/target
mkdir /tmp/target/boot
mount /dev/sdb1 /tmp/target/boot
```

- now copy the os:

```
rsync -aHvx --numeric-ids /tmp/source /tmp/target
```

- edit /tmp/target/etc/fstab and /tmp/target/boot/grub/menu.lst and update UUID according to harddisks_by_uuid_in_debian_lenny
- chroot to the target drive and install grub:

```
mount --bind /dev/ /tmp/target/dev
mount --bind /sys/ /tmp/target/sys
chroot /tmp/target
grub-install /dev/sdb
update-grub
grub
find /boot/grub/menulst
```

(if you have an own partiton for boot, you can leave boot away in the above command)

```
root (hd0,0)
setup (hd0)
```

- reboot your system

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