

## CentOS

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## Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6

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username



## Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6

2018/12/11 10:34:01

Hi,

Yesterday, I've updated a server running CentOS 7.5 to Centos 7.6. I saw there were two .rpmsave related to Grub and SELinux. After the update, the server wasn't rebooting anymore. I thought it could be a Grub error. So I tried a netboot using the custom kernel from my server provider. The server started correctly. I looked at the logs (/var/log/messages, /var/log/dsmeg, /var/log/boot) but I couldn't find anything related to the failed boot intent. On the other hand, there was an error in grubby log :

CODE: SELECT ALL

```
4908: Mon Dec 10 13:46:11 2018: command line: --grub2 -c /boot/grub2/grub.cfg --add-kernel=/boot/v
DBG: Image entry failed: uuid missing: rootdev (null), dev 23884405-b432-42a1-a47a-f34fe0a13cc6
DBG: menuentry 'CentOS Linux (3.10.0-862.14.4.el7.x86_64) 7 (Core)' --class centos --class gnu-lin
DBG:   load_video
DBG:   set gfxpayload=keep
DBG:   insmod gzio
DBG:   insmod part_gpt
DBG:   insmod part_gpt
DBG:   insmod diskfilter
DBG:   insmod mdraid09
DBG:   insmod ext2
DBG:   set root='mduuid/444484e5032bfce9a4d2adc226fd5302'
DBG:   if [ x$feature_platform_search_hint = xy ]; then
```

I tried to reinstall grub2, grubby and the new kernel. Then, I did a grub-mkconfig. There was no error during the process. Then, I rebooted again but the server failed to start.

I had another identical server to update (same hardware, same configuration). I excluded grub2\* from the update and rebooted this server without any issue. I compared the 2 grub.conf from these two servers and checked in the /boot folder if there was not an initramfs missing for the new kernel. But I couldn't see anything weird.

What log files could be helpful to try solving this issue ?

EDIT : I also tried rebooting after restoring the grub.cfg.rpmsave and it didn't work. Then, I restored again the new grub.cfg but this time editing out the menu entry corresponding to the new kernel. It didn't work either. Finally, I disabled SELinux and rebooted again but without success.

EDIT 2 : I got an email from the support team that says : "The server stays frozen on startup with this message "grub rescue >"

Thanks

Last edited by [username](#) on 2018/12/13 16:08:15, edited 2 times in total.



**username****Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6**

2018/12/13 16:06:17

OK, I guess everything can be summerized by : "Is there a way to repair Grub on a dedicated server ?"

I don't really like the custom netboot kernel I'm using right know. Usually, they create some problems. For instance, this one doesn't support SELinux.

**zorlac****Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6**

2018/12/20 02:44:42

Are you using a SoYouStart/OVH server, by chance?

This happened to me to two servers and I got the exact same response from their support. The first one I gave up and just rebuilt the entire server and recovered from backups. The second one I'm determined to fix properly, since it's not a production server.

Running "yum update" and a "reboot" should NOT brick the server.

Oh, and look what else I just found:

[https://forums.cpanel.net/threads/servi ... -6.642989/](https://forums.cpanel.net/threads/servi...-6.642989/)

I did both suggestions in rescue mode under chroot:

- disabled selinux (it was actually already disabled)
- grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/grub2/grub.cfg
- grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/efi/EFI/centos/grub.cfg

Make SURE you have mounted both /boot and then /boot/efi in rescue mode, as well as /proc, /sys & /dev. Check /etc/fstab for the correct /dev/ devices. For me it was /dev/sda2 and /dev/sda1, respectively

This worked for me, but the question remains - WTF does a yum update and reboot brick the server? I'm still not sure which grub.cfg it wants to use. It is in efi boot mode, but grub.cfg doesn't exist in the EFI folder on identical servers, which someone else in that cpanel thread pointed out as well. It used to reboot fine without it.

**zorlac****Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6**

2018/12/20 03:53:28

On another identical system, running "yum update" followed by immediately rebuilding both grub.cfg files and then rebooting fixed the issue.

**desertcat****Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6**

2018/12/20 07:04:43

username wrote: ↑

OK, I guess everything can be summarized by : "Is there a way to repair Grub on a dedicated server ?"

I don't really like the custom netboot kernel I'm using right now. Usually, they create some problems. For instance, this one doesn't support SELinux.

Before saying, "You're hosed", let me weigh in. 7.6 is not as buggy as 7.5 was, but there are still bugs in it, especially IF you run KDE, have a PS/2 KVM switch, and have a PS/2 mouse. Oddly if you run GNOME you don't have this problem. Go figure. I developed a workaround so just today rolled over my workstation today. After having blown up my machines up 4 times, I knew what to expect when I rolled the machine over today for good. This workaround would be a PITA if I had to reboot the machine every day, but since the only time it gets rebooted is when a new kernel comes out or I have to shut down the machine for some other reason.

What I think \*may\* be wrong is that your boot file in BIOS is screwed up. This has been the case since CentOS 7 came out. Example: For reasons unknown \*my\* particular mobo etc.combo does not like UEFI, the default however seems to be UEFI (probably because the manufacturer figures EVERYONE is going to install Windoze). All devices however are presented as both UEFI and Non-UEFI (Legacy BIOS). In my case my BIOS is setup to run as a Legacy BIOS, NOT UEFI. Sometimes however the BIOS gets whacked and it defaults back to UEFI... and my machine freezes. IF you are running /boot/grub you should be using the Legacy BIOS, not UEFI BIOS. ...or vice versa. Go into BIOS and make sure that the booting media matches what the machine expects to see, otherwise the machine will hang. You should also pick one but not both /boot format/partition types -- either /boot partition, or /boot/efi partition, as the machine might get confused as which is the right one to refer to.

If when you go into BIOS and check the BIOS type and make sure that it is (say) Legacy BIOS and you have a /boot partition and the machine is still hanging, then you probably are hosed and it is simply easier to do a complete re-install... though \*that\* is a GIANT PITA than doing a simple roll over. (Trust me I am still re-configuring my test bed, but it is at least back up and running).

Alternately IF you backed up the machine simply roll the machine back to 7.5 until you can debug the problem. My guess is when you rolled over the machine your BIOS might have been re-set to the default UEFI, and the solution might be as simple going into BIOS and setting it back to Legacy BIOS and checking other options to make sure they are correct then saving and exiting BIOS, and rebooting the machine.

username



## Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6

2018/12/22 15:47:07

zorlac wrote: ↑

Are you using a SoYouStart/OVH server, by chance?

Yep ! It's an OVH server (SP-16)...

zorlac wrote: ↑

Running "yum update" and a "reboot" should NOT brick the server.

I have been using CentOS as a server since 5 or 6 years and it's a first time I see that... I was quite confident about running simple updates like this. But now... not so much. And these servers are quite newly configured (like 6 months old) with nothing exotic running (just a LEMP stack). I've added exclude=grub\* to my yum.conf. I don't want to update these packages anymore.

zorlac wrote: ↑

- `grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/grub2/grub.cfg`

- `grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/efi/EFI/centos/grub.cfg`

OK, I only generated the first one because it seemed `/boot/efi/EFI/` was not used. The server may be looking for the `cfg` there. I will give it another shot after Christmas holidays.

Thanks

username



## Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6

2018/12/22 15:51:29

**desertcat** wrote: ↑

In my case my BIOS is setup to run as a Legacy BIOS, NOT UEFI. Sometimes however the BIOS gets whacked and it defaults back to UEFI... and my machine freezes.

Yeah, that could be it. It seemed `/boot/efi/EFI/` was not used. But the server might be looking for the `cfg` there because of some kind of bug or BIOS misconfiguration. I will run another `grub2-mkconfig` to this path and give it another try after Christmas.

Thanks

username



## Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6


2019/01/02 11:18:57

CODE: SELECT ALL

```
grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/efi/EFI/centos/grub.cfg
```

That was it !

`/boot/grub2` was used before the update. But for some unknown reason, after the reboot, the server was looking for a `grub.cfg` in `/boot/efi/EFI/centos/`. So I guess it's now booting in UEFI. Why? I don't know. My other server (same hardware, same server provider, same update) uses `/boot/grub2/grub.cfg` and there is no `grub.cfg` in `/boot/efi/EFI/centos`.

 **TrevorH**  
Site Admin



## Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6

2019/01/02 12:15:04

Someone switched it to use UEFI in the BIOS? Or the battery ran out and it reset it all to defaults and did it that way?

**CentOS 8 died a premature death at the end of 2021 - migrate to Rocky/Alma/OEL/Springdale ASAP.**

Info for USB installs on <http://wiki.centos.org/HowTos/InstallFromUSBkey>.

CentOS 5 and 6 are dead, do not use them.

[Use the FAQ Luke](#)

username



## Re: Grub error after update from 7.5 to 7.6

2019/01/03 10:24:40

**TrevorH** wrote: ↑

Someone switched it to use UEFI in the BIOS? Or the battery ran out and it reset it all to defaults and did it that way?

I don't really know what happened. It seems that both servers are using UEFI. If I run `dmesg | grep efi`, I get the same output on both servers :

**CODE: SELECT ALL**

```
[ 0.000000] efi: EFI v2.50 by EDK II BIOS ID:S1200SP.86B.03.01.0026.092720170729
[ 0.000000] efi: SMBIOS=0x78633000 ACPI=0x79ffe000 ACPI 2.0=0x79ffe014
[ 0.000000] efi: mem00: type=3, attr=0xf, range=[0x0000000000000000-0x0000000000001000) (0MB)
```

But on one server, `ls /boot/efi/EFI/centos` returns only these files :  
fonts grubenv grubx64.efi

It was the same on the second server, but this one wasn't booting anymore before I did a `grub2-mkconfig -o /boot/efi/EFI/centos/grub.cfg` that solved the issue. I don't really get it either...

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