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## **[How to transfer a RAID5?](#)**

by [virgafox](#) » Thu Jul 23, 2009 11:54 am

Hi,

I currently use the software RAID of freenas to manage a raid5 array formed by 4 WD disks of 1TB each. They are connectet to a sata pci card.  
This is my currently configuration:

Code: [Select all](#)

```
Informazioni e stato software RAID
Geom name: Storage
State: COMPLETE CALM
Status: Total=4, Online=4
Type: AUTOMATIC
Pending: (wqp 0 // 0)
Stripesize: 131072
MemUse: 0 (msl 0)
Newest: -1
ID: 1579222902
Providers:
1. Name: raid5/Storage
   Mediasize: 3000614387712 (2.7T)
   Sectorsize: 512
   Mode: r1w1e2
Consumers:
1. Name: ad10
   Mediasize: 1000204886016 (932G)
   Sectorsize: 512
   Mode: r2w2e3
   DiskNo: 0
   Error: No
2. Name: ad8
   Mediasize: 1000204886016 (932G)
   Sectorsize: 512
   Mode: r2w2e3
   DiskNo: 3
   Error: No
3. Name: ad6
   Mediasize: 1000204886016 (932G)
   Sectorsize: 512
   Mode: r2w2e3
   DiskNo: 2
   Error: No
4. Name: ad4
   Mediasize: 1000204886016 (932G)
   Sectorsize: 512
   Mode: r2w2e3
   DiskNo: 1
   Error: No
```

Now I have bought a new pc for freenas with 4 integrated sata ports on the motherboard. I would like to transfer the raid5 array to the new server. I'm quite sure that I can't preserve the disks names (ad4, ad6, ad8, ad10). How can I transfer the disks without losing data? Is the order of the disks important?

Thanks a lot

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## **[Re: How to transfer a RAID5?](#)**

by [danmero](#) » Thu Jul 23, 2009 1:21 pm

virgafox wrote:is the order of the disks important?

Yes you must keep the same order, as you can see graid5 use alphabetical order. Right now you have:

Code: [Select all](#)

```
DiskNo: 0 ad10  
DiskNo: 1 ad4  
DiskNo: 2 ad6  
DiskNo: 3 ad8
```

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Use this oneliner to get the serial number for each disk

Code: [Select all](#)

```
for i in $(sysctl -n kern.disks);do printf "%s\t%s\n" $i "$(smartctl -a /dev/$i | grep "Serial Number");done | sort
```

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Move the disk to your new hardware and from shell check the disk's order/serial number.  
Follow [Add Old Software RAID Workflow](#) to mount the array again.

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### **[Re: How to transfer a RAID5?](#)**

by [virgafox](#) » Tue Aug 04, 2009 11:35 am

ok I'm going to transfer the disks.. can you confirm that I have to select "create and initialize raid"? It says that this will erase all my data 😞 I'm using freenas 0.69.2 AMD64, maybe in this version this thing has been corrected.

thanks

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### **[Re: How to transfer a RAID5?](#)**

by [danmero](#) » Tue Aug 04, 2009 5:17 pm

virgafox wrote:... can you confirm that I have to select "create and initialize raid"? It says that this will erase all my data 😞

Yes, I confirm, but you can test for yourself:

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Grab the VMware release , build a dummy RAID5, fill up some data , reset the configuration to default and try to rebuild your RAID5.

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### **[Re: How to transfer a RAID5?\[Solved\]](#)**

by [virgafox](#) » Tue Aug 04, 2009 11:33 pm

In the end I simply did it. I've selected the "create and initialize raid" and it worked! all my old data are still here.

thanks