lsblk Block device inspection

CONCEPTS

lsblk, findmnt and blkid only read. The tools that change disks (wipefs without -n, mkfs, fdisk) are separate: check the device name first.

Disk sda, nvme0n1
↓ partition table
Partition sda1, nvme0n1p1
↓ mkfs
Filesystem UUID, LABEL
↓ mount
Mount point /, /mnt/data

Kernel names like sda change between boots. Refer to disks by UUID, LABEL or /dev/disk/by-* in fstab and scripts.

lsblk reads sysfs and udev, so it works without root. blkid without root shows only what its cache already knows; use sudo for a fresh probe.

LIST DEVICES

`lsblk`
Tree of block devices

`lsblk -f`
Filesystem type, label, UUID, usage

`lsblk -a`
Include empty and hidden devices

`lsblk -d`
Disks only, no partitions

`lsblk -l`
Flat list instead of tree

`lsblk -p`
Print full /dev/... paths

`lsblk <disk>`
Show only this disk and its children

`lsblk -s <part>`
Show parents instead of children

`lsblk -e7`
Hide loop devices (major 7)

CHOOSE COLUMNS

`lsblk -o NAME,SIZE,TYPE,MOUNTPOINTS`
Pick output columns

CHOOSE COLUMNS (cont.)

`lsblk -o +UUID,LABEL`
Add columns to the default set

`lsblk -H`
List available columns

`lsblk -x SIZE`
Sort by a column

`lsblk -b`
Sizes in bytes

`lsblk -n`
No header line

`lsblk -o NAME,SERIAL,MODEL,TRAN`
Identify a physical disk

OUTPUT FOR SCRIPTS

`lsblk -J`
JSON output

`lsblk -P`
KEY="value" pairs, one line per device

`lsblk -r`
Raw output, no tree characters

`lsblk -dno NAME,SIZE`
Bare disk list, no header

`lsblk -Q 'TYPE=="part"'`
Filter rows by expression

BLKID

`sudo blkid`
UUID, LABEL and TYPE of every device

`sudo blkid <dev>`
Probe one device

`sudo blkid -s UUID -o value <dev>`
Print just the UUID

`sudo blkid -o export <dev>`
KEY=value lines, sourceable

`blkid -U <uuid>`
Device name for a UUID

`blkid -L <label>`
Device name for a label

`sudo blkid -t TYPE=ext4`
Find devices by token

FINDMNT

`findmnt`
Mounted filesystems as a tree

FINDMNT (cont.)

`findmnt <path>`
Mount that serves this mount point or device

`findmnt -T <path>`
Mount that contains this path

`findmnt -no SOURCE <path>`
Just the device behind a path

`findmnt -S UUID=<uuid>`
Find a mount by device tag

`findmnt -t ext4,xfs`
Limit to filesystem types

`findmnt --real`
Hide pseudo filesystems (proc, sysfs)

`findmnt -o TARGET,SOURCE,FSTYPE,OPTIONS`
Choose columns

`findmnt -D`
Output like df

`findmnt -s`
Read /etc/fstab instead of live mounts

`findmnt --verify`
Check fstab for mistakes

STABLE NAMES

`ls -l /dev/disk/by-uuid`
Filesystem UUID to device

`ls -l /dev/disk/by-label`
Filesystem label to device

`ls -l /dev/disk/by-id`
Model and serial based names

`readlink -f /dev/disk/by-uuid/<uuid>`
Resolve a link to sdX

WIPE, RESCAN, UDEV

`sudo wipefs <dev>`
List signatures, erase nothing

`sudo wipefs -n -a <dev>`
Dry run of a full wipe

`sudo partprobe <disk>`
Make the kernel re-read the table

`udevadm info <dev>`
Show udev data and symlinks

wipefs -a destroys the signatures that tools use to recognise the disk. Always run it with -n first and read the list.