

# Alpinelinux: extlinux: no previous syslinux boot sector found

This weird error came up during some update.

Summary of the fix since i'm short on time...:

Probably you had used a block device path for /boot and this path changed. System can still come up fine, but /boot won't be mounted.

Extlinux is not able to work if /boot isn't mounted. This patch would possibly improve: <http://www.syslinux.org/archives/2014-December/022987.html>

Fix fstab, mount /boot and run apk fix.

Error appears in final stages of apk upgrade

```
Executing busybox-1.22.1-r15.trigger
Executing ca-certificates-20141019-r0.trigger
Executing mkinitfs-2.7.1-r1.trigger
==> initramfs: creating /boot/initramfs-vanilla
/lib/libcrypt-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libcrypt.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libdl-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libdl.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libm-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libm.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libuClibc-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libc.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/ld*-uClibc-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/ld*-uClibc.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
17399 blocks
50309 blocks
==> initramfs: creating /boot/initramfs-grsec
/lib/libcrypt-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libcrypt.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libdl-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libdl.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libm-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libm.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libuClibc-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/libc.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/ld*-uClibc-[0-9]*: No such file or directory. Skipped
/lib/ld*-uClibc.so.*: No such file or directory. Skipped
17399 blocks
51473 blocks
Executing syslinux-6.03-r0.trigger
/boot is device /dev/sdi3
extlinux: no previous syslinux boot sector found
ERROR: syslinux-6.03-r0.trigger: script exited with error 1
Executing glib-2.42.0-r0.trigger
OK: 646 MiB in 187 packages
daveh0003:~# apk upgrade apk
1 errors; 646 MiB in 187 packages
```

apk fix cannot help you with this error, but at least it stays only one single error

```

daveh0003:~# apk fix
(1/1) Reinstalling syslinux (6.03-r0)
Executing syslinux-6.03-r0.post-upgrade
Executing busybox-1.22.1-r15.trigger
Executing syslinux-6.03-r0.trigger
/boot is device /dev/sdi3
extlinux: no previous syslinux boot sector found
ERROR: syslinux-6.03-r0.trigger: script exited with error 1
OK: 646 MiB in 187 packages

```

lsscsi can be used to verify which block devices you have and which one you need

```

daveh0003:~# lsscsi -t
[0:2:0:0]    disk          /dev/sda
[0:2:1:0]    disk          /dev/sdb
[0:2:2:0]    disk          /dev/sdc
[0:2:3:0]    disk          /dev/sdd
[0:2:4:0]    disk          /dev/sde
[2:0:0:0]    disk      sata:      /dev/sdf
[3:0:0:0]    disk      sata:      /dev/sdg
[9:0:0:0]    disk      usb:2-1.3:1.0 /dev/sdi
daveh0003:~# df
Filesystem                1K-blocks      Used Available Use% Mounted on
/dev/sdi3                  11312716    3837448   6877560   36% /
mdev                       1024          0         1024    0% /dev
shm                        3508572          0   3508572   0% /dev/shm
tmpfs                      701716        124    701592   1% /run
cgroup_root                10240          0     10240   0%
/sys/fs/cgroup

```

check partitions on suspected boot device (which is also the one where / is mounted from)

```

daveh0003:~# fdisk -l /dev/sdi
Disk /dev/sdi: 16.0 GB, 16013942784 bytes
64 heads, 32 sectors/track, 15272 cylinders
Units = cylinders of 2048 * 512 = 1048576 bytes
   Device Boot      Start         End      Blocks   Id  System
/dev/sdi1   *           1          100     102399+  83  Linux
/dev/sdi2             101         3918     3909632  82  Linux swap
/dev/sdi3          3919        15272    11626496  83  Linux

```

check fstab

```
daveh0003:~# cat /etc/fstab
/dev/cdrom /media/cdrom iso9660 noauto,ro 0 0
/dev/usbdisk /media/usb vfat noauto,ro 0 0
/dev/sde3 / ext4 defaults 0 0
/dev/sde1 /boot ext4 defaults 0 0
/dev/vg xen_raid10/lv osimages /xen/osimages ext3
noauto,rw,relatime,errors=continue,barrier=1,data=writeback 0 0
```

--- and now fix your /etc/fstab

And now, if you mount /boot, the apk fix should work and update your initramfs.

```
daveh0003:~# mount /boot

daveh0003:~# apk fix
(1/1) Reinstalling syslinux (6.03-r0)
Executing syslinux-6.03-r0.post-upgrade
Executing busybox-1.22.1-r15.trigger
Executing syslinux-6.03-r0.trigger
/boot is device /dev/sd1
OK: 646 MiB in 187 packages
```