

How to merge AVHDX to VHDX

In this post, I will show you how to merge AVHDX to VHDX so you can save space. AVHDX is created when snapshot is enabled automatically within the VM settings. If you disable automatic checkpoint AVHDX file is left as an orphan and we have to merge this file with VHDX to make it one. Here is the current screen shot.

· SPRO4 > Windows (C:) > VM > WIN7 >

The screenshot shows the Hyper-V Manager interface. At the top, a file explorer window displays the contents of the 'VM > WIN7' directory. Below it, the Hyper-V Manager console shows a list of virtual machines. The 'Edit Virtual Hard Disk Wizard' is open, displaying the 'Before You Begin' step.

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
Snapshots	18-Feb-2019 10:25 AM	File folder	
Virtual Machines	01-Jan-2019 6:43 AM	File folder	
WIN7.vhdx	18-Feb-2019 10:47 AM	Hard Disk Image File	43,945,984 KB
WIN7_95438D71-4E83-4BF7-9EB2-2E38237C7...	18-Feb-2019 10:47 AM	AVHDX File	50,032,640 KB

Name	State	CPU Usage	Assigned Memory	Uptime	Status	Configurati...
WIN7	Off					8.3
WIN8	Off					

Before You Begin

This wizard helps you edit a virtual hard disk. Virtual hard disks are stored as .vhd or .vhdx files. To edit a virtual hard disk, you will need to know the location of the associated file.

Do not show this page again

< Previous **Next >** Finish Cancel



Locate Virtual Hard Disk

Before You Begin

Locate Disk

Choose Action

Summary

Where is the virtual hard disk file located?

Location:

Browse...



Editing the following types of virtual hard disks might result in data loss:

- Virtual hard disks in a differencing disk chain that have child virtual hard disks associated with them.
- Virtual hard disks (.avhd/.avhdx) associated with virtual machine checkpoints.
- Virtual hard disks associated with a virtual machine that has replication enabled and is currently involved in initial replication, resynchronization, test failover, or failover.

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Finish

Cancel



Choose Action

Before You Begin

Locate Disk

Choose Action

Configure Disk

Summary

What do you want to do to the virtual hard disk?

Compact

This option compacts the file size of a virtual hard disk. The storage capacity of the virtual hard disk remains the same.

Convert

This option converts a virtual hard disk by copying the contents to a new virtual hard disk. The new virtual hard disk can use a different type and format than the original virtual hard disk.

Expand

This option expands the capacity of the virtual hard disk.

Merge

This option merges the changes stored in a differencing disk into the parent disk or another disk.

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Finish

Cancel



Merge Changes from Differencing Disk

Before You Begin

Locate Disk

Choose Action

Configure Disk

Summary

How do you want to merge the changes?

To the parent virtual hard disk

To a new virtual hard disk

Location: C:\Users\Public\Documents\Hyper-V\Virtual Hard Disks\

Browse...

New virtual hard disk type

Dynamic virtual hard disk

Fixed virtual hard disk

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Finish

Cancel



Completing the Edit Virtual Hard Disk Wizard

Before You Begin

Locate Disk

Choose Action

Configure Disk

Summary

You have successfully completed the Edit Virtual Hard Disk Wizard. You are about to make the following changes.

Description:

Virtual Hard Disk: WIN7_95438D71-4E83-4BF7-9EB2-2E38237C7897.avhdx (VHDX, differencing)

Action: Merge

Configuration: Merge into parent WIN7.vhdx (VHDX, dynamically expanding)

To complete the action and close the wizard, click Finish.

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Next >

Finish

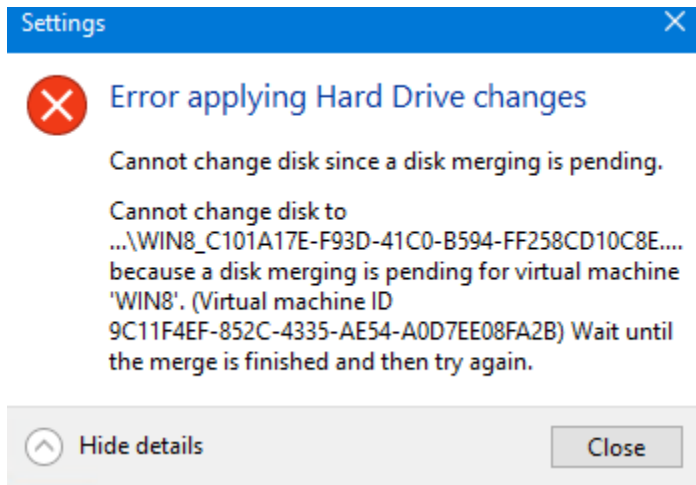
Cancel

Editing the virtual disk...



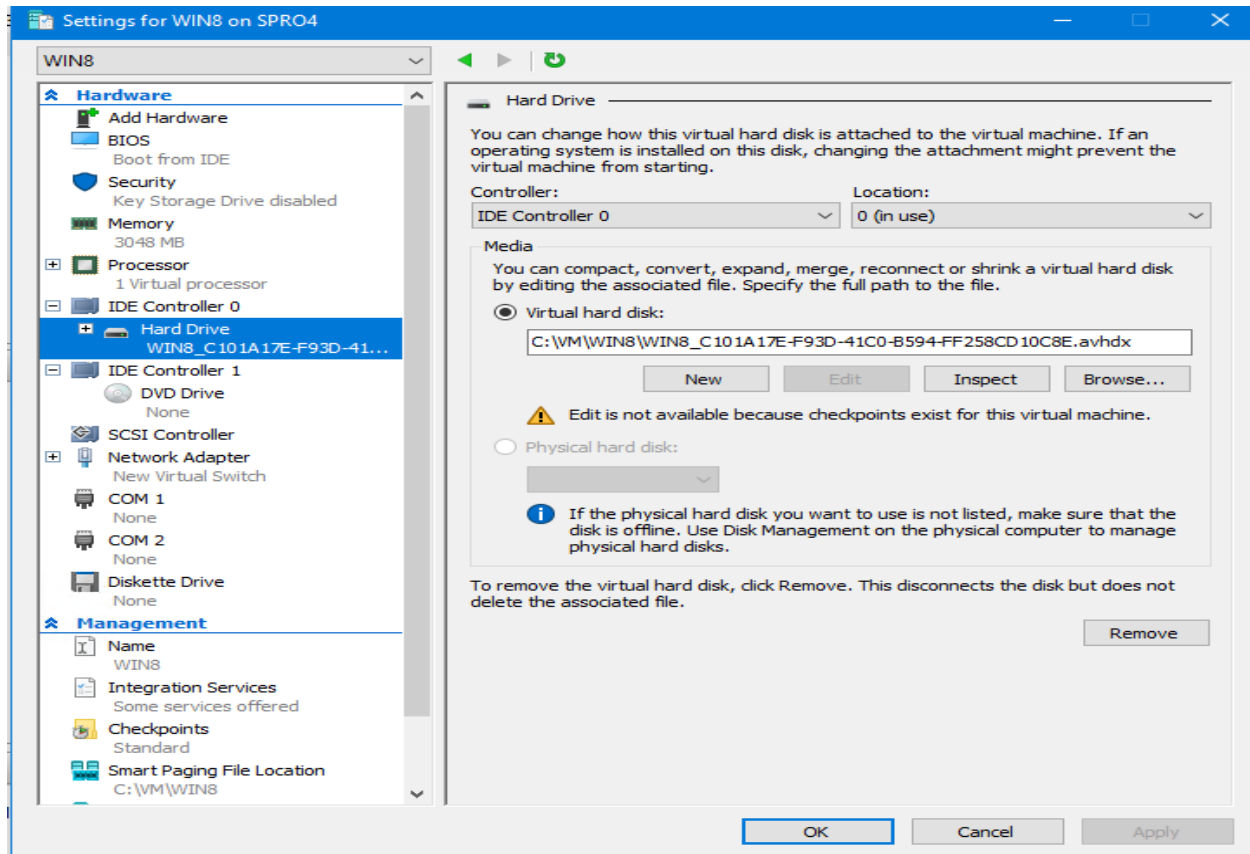
Cancel

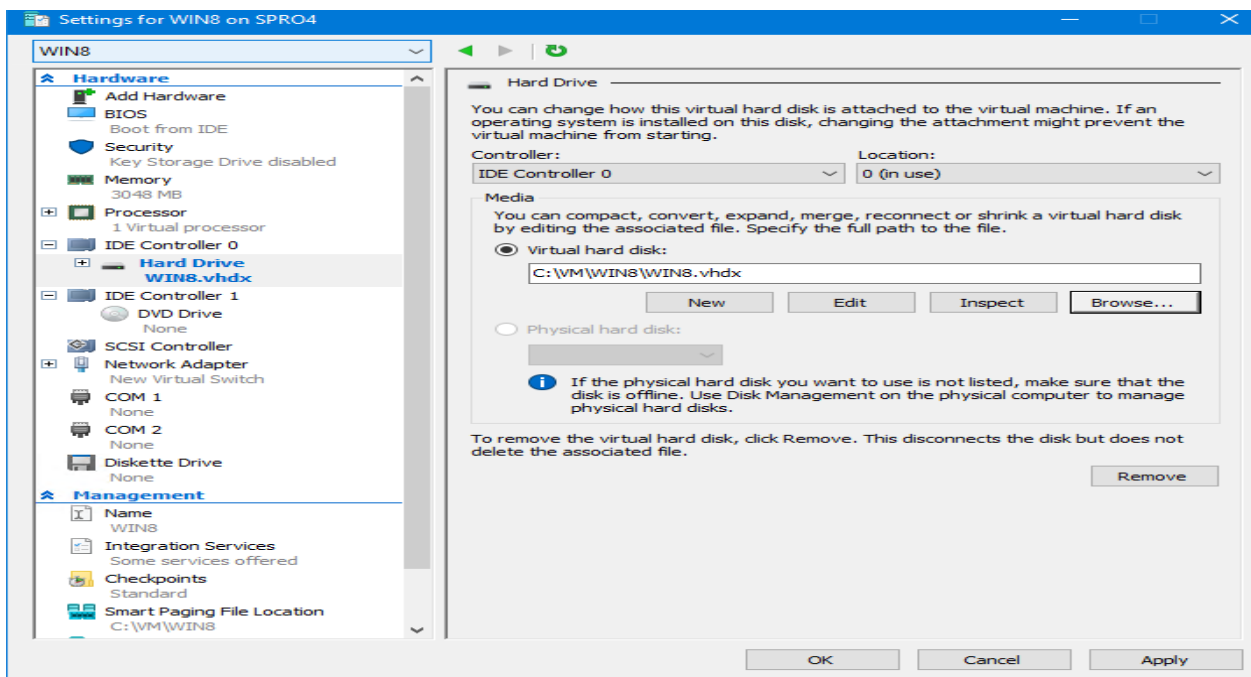
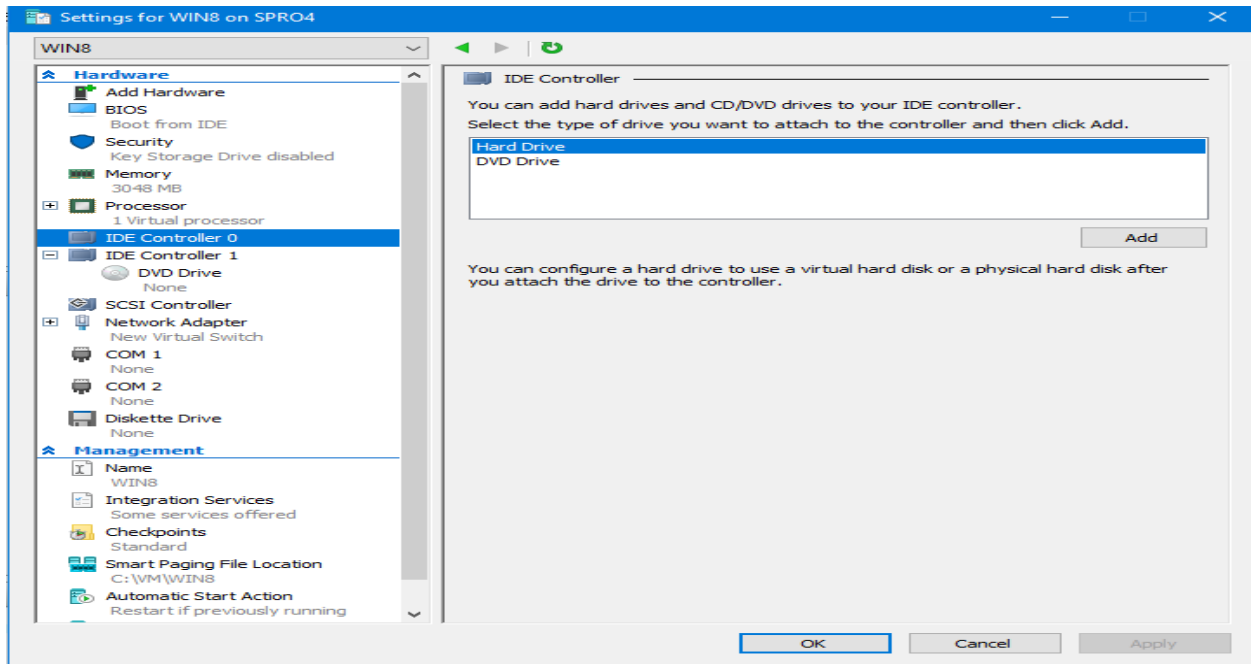
After the merge, I was not able to start the VM – the error was



Based on the error, I was surprised because the merge completed successfully and, I restarted the Hyper-V Server as well. Yet no go.

Started to Google and came up with this solution. Remove the IDE Hard disk and re-attach. It worked.





Virtual Machines						
Name	State	CPU Usage	Assigned Memory	Uptime	Status	Configurati...
WIN8	Running	5%	3048 MB	00:00:05		9.0

This concludes the process of merging the files.

Thanks

Ram Lan

18th Feb 2019