

Configuring a macbook pro to tripple boot Debian, OSX and ipxe

- these notes serve to contain notes which were used to configure a macbook pro (5,2)
 - they have been written after the complete install and thus are pretty sketchy

- the goals were:
 - to use grub as the boot loader, (not refind)
 - to turn the macbook pro into a normal laptop
 - to allow thin client booking via ipxe

- refind looks an impressive solution, but I wanted to see if it were possible to achieve the above without it

Installation sequence

- install OSX (snow leopard in my case)

- add 3 new partitions using OSX - you will need to shrink the existing space using the diskutil program
 - hpfplus (1GB)
 - 30 GB (Debian)
 - remainder (I had 200 GB) for the home directories

Installation sequence

- on a linux machine, download Debian jessie cdrom (CD1) and burn it as an ISO image

- place this cdrom in the macbook pro and reboot it
 - hold down the 'c' key as it boots

- proceed to install debian jessie

- it will probably fail when trying to install 'grub'

Installation sequence

- reboot macbook and hold down the 'c' key again
- see if you can find an efi boot entry from the grub menu
- enter rescue mode
 - run the root shell from the appropriate partition where / was installed

Installation sequence

- make sure that `/etc/fstab` has the following entry (assuming `/dev/sda1` is the efi partition)

```
/dev/sda1 /boot/efi auto defaults 0 0
```

```
# mkdir -p /boot/efi  
# mount -a  
# apt-get install grub  
# apt-get install grub-efi efibootmgr
```