

# 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
```