Using a third party tool to convert a VHD to a VMDK

Using a third party tool to convert a VHD can result in a disk with a provision type that is unsupported by VMware and cannot be backed up by a Unitrends appliance. This article identifies best practices for converting to a supported type.

1. When creating the new VMDK, you must select “Create Fixed Size Virtual Hard Disk.” If you select “Create Dynamically Expanding Virtual Hard Disk,” this could result in an unsupported provision type, such as “Sparse Disk”. If you need a dynamically expanding disk, you can change the provision type after converting from the VHD. For details, see the [VMware article Changing the thick or thin provisioning of a virtual disk](http://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=2014832).
2. You must also verify that each disk has a UUID. Disks without UUIDs cannot be backed up. For instructions, see the VMware article [Backup software shows error: Disk does not have UUID](http://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=1033370).
3. After verifying that each disk has a UUID, you must restart the management agents on the ESX host. For instructions, see the VMware article [Restarting the Management agents on an ESXi or ESX host](http://kb.vmware.com/selfservice/microsites/search.do?language=en_US&cmd=displayKC&externalId=1003490).

The conversion creates a VMDK supported by VMware, and you can back up the VM with a Unitrends appliance.