x86PC - Master Boot Record

Master Boot Record (MBR)

Some notes on MBR used in classic/legacy BIOS-based system.

- first sector of a partitioned storage
  - also known as disk boot sector
  - contains a partition table (info on how the disk is partitioned)
- classic MBR
  - 446 bytes executable code
  - 64 bytes partition entries (4 primary partitions)
  - 2 bytes boot signature (0x55 0xAA)
- modern MBR
  - 218 bytes executable code
  - 2 bytes (always 0x00?)
  - 4 bytes disk timestamp
  - 216 bytes executable code
  - 4 bytes disk signature
  - 2 bytes (always 0x00?)
  - 64 bytes partition entries (4 primary partitionss)
  - 2 bytes boot signature (0x55 0xAA)
- primary job of embedded code is to boot/load Volume Boot Record (VBR)
- superseeded by GUID partition table (GPT) - Read more @ wikipedia

Read more @ wikipedia

Volume Boot Record (VBR)

- first sector of a partition on a partitioned storage
  - also known as partition boot sector

Read more @ wikipedia

From:
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