

Managing Virtual Machines on Ubuntu KVM

This article is a dump of my experience with setting up a viable virtual machine management platform on an Ubuntu Hypervisor with following specs:

OS: Ubuntu 14.04.2 LTS

HDD:

Memory:

Preflight

Check for Virtualization Support

```
egrep -c '(vmx|svm)' /proc/cpuinfo
```

If 0 it means that your CPU doesn't support hardware virtualization.

If 1 or more it does – but you still need to make sure that virtualization is enabled in the BIOS.

Issue Package Updates

```
sudo apt-get update
```

```
sudo apt-get upgrade
```

It is assumed you have the following packages installed

```
git
```

```
python-pip
```

If No:

```
sudo apt-get install git python-pip
```

Setup libvirt and KVM

Manually

```
sudo apt-get install qemu-kvm libvirt-bin virtinst bridge-  
utils sasl2-bin
```

Via bootstrap script

```
curl http://retspen.github.io/libvirt-bootstrap.sh | sudo sh
```

Once the installation is complete, add a designated user account

```
sudo adduser `id -un` libvirtd
```

Add the option `-l` in the file `/etc/default/libvirt-bin`:
It should look like:

```
libvirtd_opts="-d -l"
```

In the file `/etc/libvirt/libvirtd.conf` uncomment the line (Remove #):

```
listen_tls = 0  
listen_tcp = 1  
tcp_port = "16509"
```

Create a `saslpasword`:

```
sudo saslpasswd2 -a libvirt [username] // where [username]  
is the designated libvirt user account
```

```
Password: xxxxxx
```

```
Again (for verification): xxxxxx
```

Add firewall rule for *TCP port 16509*:

Create a file `/etc/ufw/applications.d/libvirtd` and it add the following lines:

```
[Libvirt]  
title=Virtualization library  
description=Open port for libvirt  
ports=16509/tcp
```

Add a firewall rule in the chain

```
sudo ufw allow from any to any app Libvirt
```

Install Administration Package

```
sudo apt-get install git python-pip python-libvirt python-libxml2 novnc supervisor nginx
```

Validate Installation

```
virsh -c qemu+tcp://127.0.0.1/system nodeinfo
```

Please enter your authentication name: [username]

Please enter your password: [password]

Sample Output:

```
CPU model:          x86_64
CPU(s):            2
CPU frequency:     3611 MHz
CPU socket(s):     1
Core(s) per socket: 2
Thread(s) per core: 1
NUMA cell(s):     1
Memory size:       3019260 kB
```

Install WebvirtMgr

Install required Packages

```
sudo apt-get install python-libvirt python-libxml2 supervisor nginx
```

Clone webvirtmgr project from github

```
cd /var/www
git clone git://github.com/retspen/webvirtmgr.git
```

Set permissions

```
sudo chown -R www-data:www-data /var/www/webvirtmgr
```

Install requirements

```
cd webvirtmgr
sudo pip install -r requirements.txt
```

Update Django Settings

```
./manage.py syncdb
./manage.py collectstatic
```

Enter the user information when prompted:

You just installed Django's auth system, which means you don't have any superusers defined.

Would you like to create one now? (yes/no): yes (Put: yes)

Username (Leave blank to use 'admin'): admin (Put: your username or login)

E-mail address: username@domain.local (Put: your email)

Password: xxxxxx (Put: your password)

Password (again): xxxxxx (Put: confirm password)

Superuser created successfully.

Adding additional superusers

./manage.py createsuperuser

(Optional) Enable remote access to the WebUI via Nginx or SSH Tunnel

Usually WebVirtMgr is only available from localhost on port 8000

You can connect via ssh tunnel, like so:

ssh user@server:port -L localhost:8000:localhost:8000 -L localhost:6080:localhost:6080

You should then be able to access WebVirtMgr by typing localhost:8000 in your browser after completing the install. Port 6080 is forwarded to make noVNC work.

or

You can configure a redirect to have the WebUI accessible via nginx:

if not already done:

sudo mv webvirtmgr /var/www/

sudo vim /etc/nginx/conf.d/webvirtmgr.conf

```
server {
    listen 80 default_server;
    server_name $hostname;
    #access_log /var/log/nginx/webvirtmgr_access_log;
    location /static/ {
        root /var/www/webvirtmgr/webvirtmgr; # or /srv
instead of /var
```

```

        expires max;
    }
    location / {
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:8000;
        proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-For
$proxy_add_x_forwarded_for;
        proxy_set_header Host $host:$server_port;
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-Proto $remote_addr;
        proxy_connect_timeout 600;
        proxy_read_timeout 600;
        proxy_send_timeout 600;
        client_max_body_size 1024M; # Set higher depending
on your needs
    }
}

```

Comment the Server Section as it is shown in the example:
Either:

sudo vim /etc/nginx/sites-available/

or

sudo vim /etc/nginx/nginx.conf

Note:

The path may differ

The end result should look like this:

```

#    server {
#        listen          80 default_server;
#        server_name    localhost;
#        root           /usr/share/nginx/html;
#
#        #charset koi8-r;
#
#        #access_log    /var/log/nginx/host.access.log
main;
#
#        # Load configuration files for the default
server block.
#        include /etc/nginx/default.d/*.conf;
#

```

```

#         location / {
#         }
#
#         # redirect server error pages to the static
page /40x.html
#         #
#         error_page 404                /404.html;
#         location = /40x.html {
#         }
#
#         # redirect server error pages to the static
page /50x.html
#         #
#         error_page 500 502 503 504  /50x.html;
#         location = /50x.html {
#         }
#     }

```

Restart nginx service:

sudo service nginx restart

Setup novnc

vi /etc/init.d/novnc

```

#!/bin/sh
### BEGIN INIT INFO
# Provides:          nova-novncproxy
# Required-Start:    $network $local_fs $remote_fs $syslog
# Required-Stop:     $remote_fs
# Default-Start:     2 3 4 5
# Default-Stop:      0 1 6
# Short-Description: Nova NoVNC proxy
# Description:       Nova NoVNC proxy
### END INIT INFO
# PATH should only include /usr/* if it runs after the
mountnfs.sh script
PATH=/sbin:/usr/sbin:/bin:/usr/bin
DESC="WebVirtMgr NoVNC proxy"
NAME='webvirtmgr-console'
DAEMON_PREFIX='/var/www/webvirtmgr/console'
PIDFILE="/run/${NAME}.pid"
#SCRIPTNAME="/etc/init.d/${NAME}"
SCRIPTNAME="/etc/init.d/novnc"

```

```

LOCK_DIR="/run/lock/${NAME}"
USER='www-data'
GROUP='www-data'
# read in defaults if available
[ -f "/etc/default/${NAME}" ] && . "/etc/default/${NAME}"
DAEMON="${DAEMON_PREFIX}/${NAME}"
# Exit if the package is not installed
[ -x $DAEMON ] || exit 0
mkdir -p ${LOCK_DIR}
chown "${USER}:${GROUP}" ${LOCK_DIR}
. /lib/lsb/init-functions
do_start()
{
    start-stop-daemon --start --background --quiet --chuid
"${USER}:${GROUP}" --make-pidfile --pidfile $PIDFILE --startas
$DAEMON --test > /dev/null \
    || return 1
    start-stop-daemon --start --background --quiet --chuid
"${USER}:${GROUP}" --make-pidfile --pidfile $PIDFILE --startas
$DAEMON -- \
    $DAEMON_ARGS \
    || return 2
}
do_stop()
{
    start-stop-daemon --stop --quiet --retry=TERM/30/KILL/5 --
pidfile $PIDFILE
    RETVAL="$?"
    rm -f $PIDFILE
    return "$RETVAL"
}
case "$1" in
    start)
        log_daemon_msg "Starting $DESC " "$NAME"
        do_start
        case "$?" in
            0|1) log_end_msg 0 ;;
            2) log_end_msg 1 ;;
            esac
        ;;
    stop)

```

```

log_daemon_msg "Stopping $DESC" "$NAME"
do_stop
case "$?" in
    0|1) log_end_msg 0 ;;
    2) log_end_msg 1 ;;
esac
;;
status)
    status_of_proc "$DAEMON" "$NAME" && exit 0 || exit $?
    ;;
restart|force-reload)
log_daemon_msg "Restarting $DESC" "$NAME"
do_stop
case "$?" in
    0|1)
do_start
case "$?" in
    0) log_end_msg 0 ;;
    1) log_end_msg 1 ;; # Old process is still running
    *) log_end_msg 1 ;; # Failed to start
esac
;;
*)
# Failed to stop
log_end_msg 1
;;
esac
;;
*)
echo "Usage: $SCRIPTNAME {start|stop|status|restart|force-
reload}" >&2
exit 3
;;
esac

```

Setup Supervisor

sudo service novnc stop

sudo insserv -r novnc

sudo vi /etc/insserv/overrides/novnc

#!/bin/sh


```
### BEGIN INIT INFO
# Provides:          nova-novncproxy
# Required-Start:    $network $local_fs $remote_fs $syslog
# Required-Stop:     $remote_fs
# Default-Start:
# Default-Stop:
# Short-Description: Nova NoVNC proxy
# Description:       Nova NoVNC proxy
### END INIT INFO
```

sudo vi /etc/supervisor/conf.d/webvirtmgr.conf

```
[program:webvirtmgr]
    command=/usr/bin/python /var/www/webvirtmgr/manage.py
run_gunicorn -c /var/www/webvirtmgr/conf/gunicorn.conf.py
    directory=/var/www/webvirtmgr
    autostart=true
    autorestart=true
    stdout_logfile=/var/log/supervisor/webvirtmgr.log
    redirect_stderr=true
    user=www-data
[program:webvirtmgr-console]
    command=/usr/bin/python
/var/www/webvirtmgr/console/webvirtmgr-console
    directory=/var/www/webvirtmgr
    autostart=true
    autorestart=true
    stdout_logfile=/var/log/supervisor/webvirtmgr-console.log
    redirect_stderr=true
    user=www-data
```

Restart supervisor daemon

sudo service supervisor restart

WebVirtMgr Post-Installation

I provide the below for additional considerations:

Networking

Before libvirt was installed, virbr0 did not exist. We

only had interfaces for loopback and eth0. virbr0 means “virtual bridge 0” and was automatically created by libvirt during installation. virbr0 was configured as a NAT-only interface. This means virtual machine hosts that use this bridge can get out to the network via the eth0 interface but any devices on the other side cannot initiate requests into virbr0 clients.

Here’s my networking configuration:

```
/etc/network/interfaces
auto eth0
iface eth0 inet dhcp
auto br0
iface br0 inet dhcp
    bridge_ports eth0
    bridge_stp off
auto eth1
iface eth1 inet dhcp
auto eth2
iface eth2 inet dhcp
```

Troubleshooting The WebVirtMgr Installation

Debugging the webapp

```
cd /var/www/webvirtmgr
```

Enable debug mode in the local_settings.py

```
sudo ./manage.py runserver 0:8000
```

Errors:

```
“webvirtmgr” “authentication failed:”
```

Ensure that any users specified in the connections matches what is listed in the local database

Review administrative users

```
sasldblistusers2 -f /etc/libvirt/passwd.db
```

```
saslpasswd2 -cf /etc/libvirt/passwd.db
```

If no users configured:

add user

```
saslpasswd2 -a libvirt <username>
```

Installing Vagrant

Preflight

Install prerequisites

```
sudo apt-get install
```

```
sudo apt-get install gcc libvirt-dev ruby-libvirt
```

Download vagrant package

```
wget
```

```
https://dl.bintray.com/mitchellh/vagrant/vagrant_1.7.2_x86_64.  
deb
```

Install vagrant

```
sudo dpkg -i vagrant_1.7.2_x86_64.deb
```

Install vagrant libvirt/kvm provider

```
sudo vagrant plugin install vagrant-libvirt
```