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Red Hat / CentOS Linux: Explain Use of Network Interface virbr0

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Q. I've installed Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.2 and I see virbr0 network interface along with my eth0 interface? What it is? How do I disable or remove virbr0?



 $A.\ virbr0\ is\ xen\ interface\ used\ by\ Virtualization\ guest\ and\ host\ oses\ for\ network\ communication.$

Following are the packages under Red Hat / CentOS Linux:

Group: Virtualization

Description: Virtualization Support.

Mandatory Packages:

- => xen
- => kernel-xen

Default Packages:

- => virt-manager
- => Virtualization-en-US
- => gnome-applet-vm
- => libvirt

You can disable virbr0 if you don't need xen Virtualization support, enter:

```
# yum groupremove "Virtualization"
```

Sample output:

```
Loading "rhnplugin" plugin
Loading "security" plugin
Setting up Group Process
rhel-x86_64-server-vt-5 100% |=========== | 1.4 kB
rhn-tools-rhel-x86_64-ser 100% |============ | 1.2 kB
                                                      00:00
rhel-x86_64-server-5 100% |========== | 1.4 kB
                                                      00:00
No package matched to remove
Resolving Dependencies
--> Running transaction check
---> Package libvirt.x86_64 0:0.3.3-7.el5 set to be erased
--> Processing Dependency: libvirt.so.0()(64bit) for package: libvirt-python
--> Processing Dependency: libvirt = 0.3.3 for package: libvirt-python
--> Running transaction check
---> Package libvirt-python.x86_64 0:0.3.3-7.el5 set to be erased
--> Processing Dependency: libvirt-python for package: rhn-virtualization-host
--> Running transaction check
---> Package rhn-virtualization-host.noarch 0:1.0.1-55 set to be erased
--> Finished Dependency Resolution
Dependencies Resolved
______
Package Arch Version Repository Size
______
Removing:
                   x86_64
                           0.3.3-7.el5
                                        installed
libvirt
Removing for dependencies:
rhn-virtualization-host noarch 1.0.1-55
                                       installed
                                                      230 k
                                          installed
                                                         155 k
Transaction Summary
______
```

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```
Install
           0 Package(s)
Update
           0 Package(s)
Remove
           3 Package(s)
Is this ok [y/N]: y
Downloading Packages:
Running rpm_check_debug
Running Transaction Test
Finished Transaction Test
Transaction Test Succeeded
Running Transaction
                                       ########## [1/3]
 Erasing : libvirt-python
 Erasing : rhn-virtualization-host
                                       ########## [2/3]
Stopping crond: [ OK ]
Starting crond: [ OK
                                       ######### [3/3]
 Erasing
         : libvirt
Removed: libvirt.x86_64 0:0.3.3-7.el5
Dependency Removed: libvirt-python.x86_64 0:0.3.3-7.el5 rhn-virtualization-host.noarch 0:1.
Complete!
```

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