Name:	Date Performed:
Course/Section:	Date Submitted:
Instructor:	Semester and SY:

Activity 3: Install SSH server on CentOS or RHEL 8

1. Objectives:

- 1.1 Install Community Enterprise OS or Red Hat Linux OS
- 1.2 Configure remote SSH connection from remote computer to CentOS/RHEL-8

2. Discussion:

CentOS vs. Debian: Overview

CentOS and Debian are Linux distributions that spawn from opposite ends of the candle.

CentOS is a free downstream rebuild of the commercial Red Hat Enterprise Linux distribution where, in contrast, Debian is the free upstream distribution that is the base for other distributions, including the Ubuntu Linux distribution.

As with many Linux distributions, CentOS and Debian are generally more alike than different; it isn't until we dig a little deeper that we find where they branch.

CentOS vs. Debian: Architecture

The available supported architectures can be the determining factor as to whether a distro is a viable option or not. Debian and CentOS are both very popular for x86 64/AMD64, but what other archs are supported by each?

Both Debian and CentOS support AArch64/ARM64, armhf/armhfp, i386, ppc64el/ppc64le. (Note: armhf/armhfp and i386 are supported in CentOS 7 only.)

CentOS 7 additionally supports POWER9 while Debian and CentOS 8 do not. CentOS 7 focuses on the x86_64/AMD64 architecture with the other archs released through the AltArch SIG (Alternate Architecture Special Interest Group) with CentOS 8 supporting x86_64/AMD64, AArch64 and ppc64le equally.

Debian supports MIPSel, MIPS64el and s390x while CentOS does not. Much like CentOS 8, Debian does not favor one arch over another —all supported architectures are supported equally.

CentOS vs. Debian: Package Management

Most Linux distributions have some form of package manager nowadays, with some more complex and feature-rich than others.

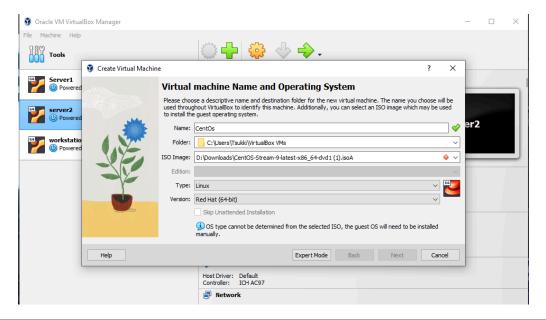
CentOS uses the RPM package format and YUM/DNF as the package manager.

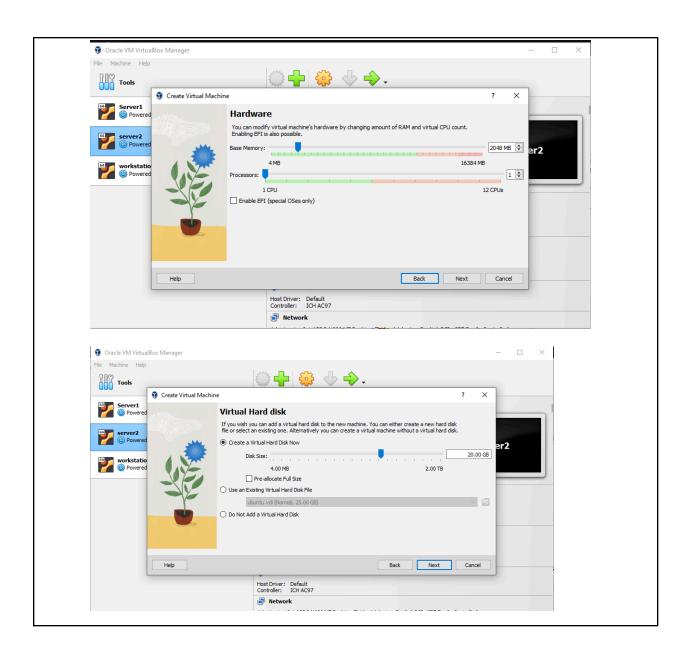
Debian uses the DEB package format and dpkg/APT as the package manager.

Both offer full-feature package management with network-based repository support, dependency checking and resolution, etc.. If you're familiar with one but not the other, you may have a little trouble switching over, but they're not overwhelmingly different. They both have similar features, just available through a different interface.

Task 1: Download the CentOS or RHEL-8 image (Create screenshots of the following)

- Download the image of the CentOS here: http://mirror.rise.ph/centos/7.9.2009/isos/x86 64/
- 2. Create a VM machine with 2 Gb RAM and 20 Gb HD.
- 3. Install the downloaded image.
- 4. Show evidence that the OS was installed already.







Task 2: Install the SSH server package openssh

1. Install the ssh server package *openssh* by using the *dnf* command:

\$ dnf install openssh-server

```
[tdee@localhost ~]$ sudo dnf install openssh-server
Updating Subscription Management repositories.
Unable to read consumer identity

This system is not registered with an entitlement server. You can use "rho subscription-manager" to register.

Last metadata expiration check: 0:00:30 ago on Fri 13 Sep 2024 08:29:28 AM Package openssh-server-8.7p1-43.el9.x86_64 is already installed.
Dependencies resolved.
Nothing to do.
Complete!
```

- 2. Start the **sshd** daemon and set to start after reboot:
 - \$ systemctl start sshd
 - \$ systemctl enable sshd

[tdee@localhost ~]\$ systemctl start sshd [tdee@localhost ~]\$ systemctl enable sshd

- 3. Confirm that the sshd daemon is up and running:
 - \$ systemctl status sshd

- 4. Open the SSH port 22 to allow incoming traffic:
 - \$ firewall-cmd --zone=public --permanent --add-service=ssh
 - \$ firewall-cmd --reload

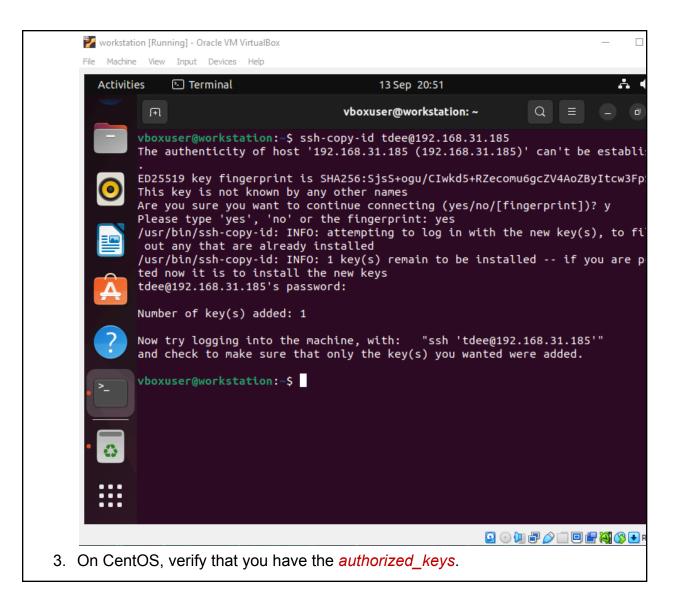
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[tdee@localhost ~]$ firewall-cmd --zone=public --permanent --add-service=ss
Warning: ALREADY_ENABLED: ssh
success
[tdee@localhost ~]$ firewall-cmd --reload
success
```

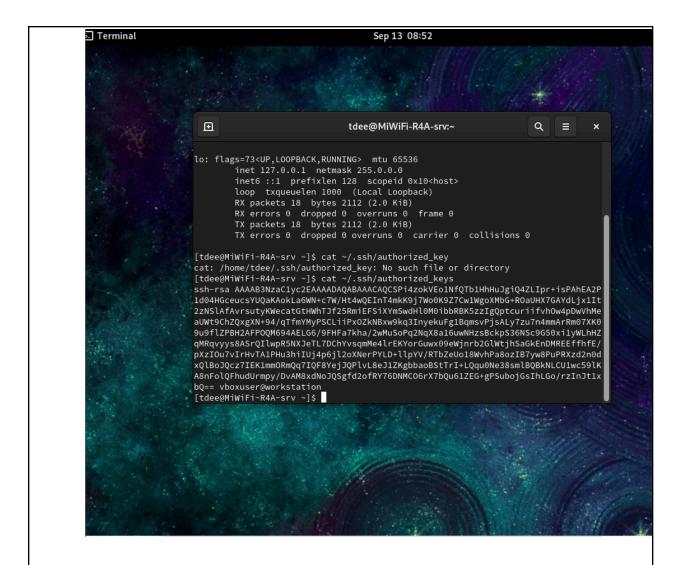
- 5. Locate the ssh server man config file /etc/ssh/sshd_config and perform custom configuration. Every time you make any change to the /etc/ssh/sshd-config configuration file reload the sshd service to apply changes:
 - \$ systemctl reload sshd

```
[tdee@localhost ~]$ systemctl reload sshd
[tdee@localhost ~]$
```

Task 3: Copy the Public Key to CentOS

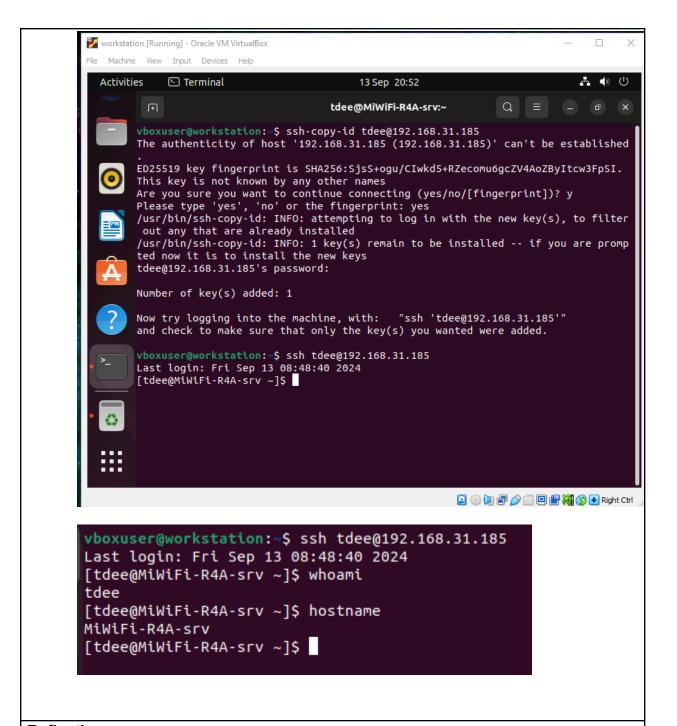
- 1. Make sure that ssh is installed on the local machine.
- 2. Using the command *ssh-copy-id*, connect your local machine to CentOS.





Task 4: Verify ssh remote connection

- 1. Using your local machine, connect to CentOS using ssh.
- 2. Show evidence that you are connected.



Reflections:

Answer the following:

1. What do you think we should look for in choosing the best distribution between Debian and Red Hat Linux distributions?

When choosing between Debian and Red Hat, consider the package management system, which affects ease of use and software availability. Evaluate the support option Red Hat offers enterprise-level paid support, while Debian is community-driven with free support. Lastly, think about the target environment

Debian is often chosen for flexibility and stability in diverse environments, while Red Hat excels in commercial, and enterprise setups.

2. What are the main diffence between Debian and Red Hat Linux distributions?

Debian uses the APT package manager and .deb packages, while Red Hat uses YUM/DNF and .rpm packages. Red Hat is known for its enterprise focus, offering commercial support and certifications, while Debian is more community-driven and non-commercial. System administration differs too, with Red Hat-based systems using systemd extensively, whereas Debian offers more flexibility in choosing init systems.