Creating Thinly Provisioned Volumes



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Overview



Thin-provisioning

Deploy thin-provisioned volumes



People Always Want More

If a user asks for 200GB of data for their project, they probably only need 100GB. Why upset them by giving them less. Using thinly-provisioned volumes you can appear to give them more than they actually get.



\$ sudo apt install thin-provisioning-tools

Install Tools

You may have to install an additional package to support thin provisioning if it is not already installed.



\$ sudo lvcreate -L 1g --thinpool tpool vg1

Create the Thin-pool

The thin-pool is a special volume used as a storage pool to supply thin-volumes.



\$ sudo lvcreate -V 2g --thin -n thin_lv vg1/tpool

Create a Thin-volume

Thin-volumes are created in the thin-pool, rather than the volume group directly. They can be allocated more space than exists, this is over provisioning. The size of the thin-volume can increase to the size allocated but it does not have to be available at creation.



/etc/lvm/lvm.conf

Auto-grow Pool

thin_pool_autoextend_threshold = 100
thin_pool_autoextend_percent = 20

Demo



In this first demonstration we will create the thin pool on the controller



Demo



Now we will deploy the thin-pool and volume to the managed nodes



Overview



Thin provisioning LVM volumes makes more efficient use of actual disk space

Create the thin-pool in the volume group first

Then create thin-volume specifying a virtual size with -V

Monitor the volume group to add space add required

The thin-pool can be set to auto-grow if there is space in the volume group



Adding Thin Provisoning

```
- name: Install tools
 apt:
        name: thin-provisioning-tools
        state: latest
- name: Create pool
  lvol:
        vg: vg1
        thinpool: tpool
        size: 1g
- name: Create Thin LV
 lvol:
        vg: vg1
        lv: thin-lv
        thinpool: tpool
        size: 2g
```

site.yml

Using LVM Snapshots

