Packer MAAS

Packer templates, associated scripts, and configuration for creating deployable OS images for MAAS.

See README.md in each directory for documentation on how to customize, build, and upload images.

Read more about how custom images work.

Existing templates

OS	Maturity Level	MAAS Version
AlmaLinux 8	Beta	>= 3.5
AlmaLinux 9	Beta	>= 3.5
CentOS 6	EOL	>= 1.6
CentOS 7	Stable	>= 2.3
CentOS 8	EOL	>= 2.7
CentOS 8 Stream	Beta	>= 3.2
CentOS 9 Stream	Beta	>= 3.2
Debian 10	Beta	>= 3.3
Debian 11	Beta	>= 3.3
Debian 12	Beta	>= 3.3
OL8	Alpha	>= 3.5
OL9	Alpha	>= 3.5
RHEL 7	EOL	>= 2.3
RHEL 8	Stable	>= 2.7
RHEL 9	Beta	>= 3.3
Rocky 8	Beta	>= 3.3
Rocky 9	Beta	>= 3.3
SLES 12	Beta	>= 3.4
SLES 15	Beta	>= 3.4
Ubuntu	Stable	>= 3.0
VMWare ESXi 6	EOL	>= 3.0

OS	Maturity Level	MAAS Version
VMWare ESXi 7	Stable	>= 3.0
VMWare ESXi 8	Beta	>= 3.0

Maturity level

- Templates marked as *EOL* are OSes that are no longer supported by the upstream maintainer, and **are not recommended for new deployments**. These systems don't receive security updates and mirrors can become permanently offline at any moment.
- *Alpha* templates require packages that are not yet generally available, e.g. an unreleased MAAS or Curtin version. These should not be used in production environments.
- *Beta* templates should work but we still don't have enough successful deployment reports to regard it as *Stable*.

Output

All templates are configured to output to serial. Packer does not officially support serial output(GH:5). To see output run with PACKER_LOG=1.

If you wish to use a GUI modify each template as follows:

- Remove any boot_command line that contains "console" or "com1_Port"
- Remove ""-serial", "stdio"" from qemuargs. qemuargs may be removed as well if empty.

If you wish to use QEMU's UI also remove "headless": true

If you keep "headless": true you can connect using VNC. Packer will output the IP and port to connect to when run.

Contributing new templates

We welcome contributions of new templates.

The following is a set of guidelines for contributing to Packer MAAS. These are mostly guidelines, not rules. Use your best judgment, and feel free to propose changes to this document in a pull request.

Project structure

Each OS has it's own directory in the repository. The typical contents is:

- one or more HCL2 templates
- a `scripts` directory with auxiliary scripts required by `provisioner` and `post-processor` blocks
- a `http` directory with auto-configuration files used by the OS installer
- a `README.md` file describing
  - what is the target OS
  - host requirements for building this template
  - MAAS requirements for deploying the generated image

    - description of each template (HCL2) file, including the use of all parameters defined by them
    - step by step instruction to build it
    - default login credentials for the image (if any)
    - instructions for uploading this image to MAAS
- a `Makefile` to build the template

How to submit a new template

1. Fork the project to your own GH account
2. Create a local branch
3. If you are contributing a new OS, create a new directory following the guidelines above
4. If you are creating a new template for an already supported OS, just create a HCL2 file and add auxiliary files it requires to the appropriate directories
5. Run `packer validate .` in the directory to check your template
6. Commit your changes and push the branch to your repository
7. Open a Merge Request to packer-maas
8. Wait for review