

Installing BIND 9 DNS Server on CentOS 7

This guide assumes the use of BIND v9.10.4-P2 (the most current version at the time of writing) and CentOS 7 minimal install. Any other versions of the software or distributions may have different dependencies, options, or commands.

Caveats

- If a forward zone is to be configured on the BIND DNS server, not just any zone can be used.
- If a zone such as `google.com` were configured on the server, it would not be usable by anyone in the world except those users of the particular DNS server.
- Although it is possible to "over-ride" a zone in this way, it is not recommended.
- Instead, a real domain name may be purchased from a domain registrar and set to use the BIND DNS server as its authoritative DNS server.
- Then and only then will the zone be valid world-wide.
- Note that, for the purposes of experimentation or local use, any zone may be used.
- This guide assumes some basic familiarity with the Linux command line and the RedHat/CentOS/Fedora family of distributions.

Install CentOS 7

1. Start the machine with a CentOS install DVD inserted. Select the CD drive as the boot device, if necessary.
2. When the CentOS install DVD boots, select "Install CentOS 7" from the menu using the arrow keys and hit the Enter key.

CentOS 7

Install CentOS 7

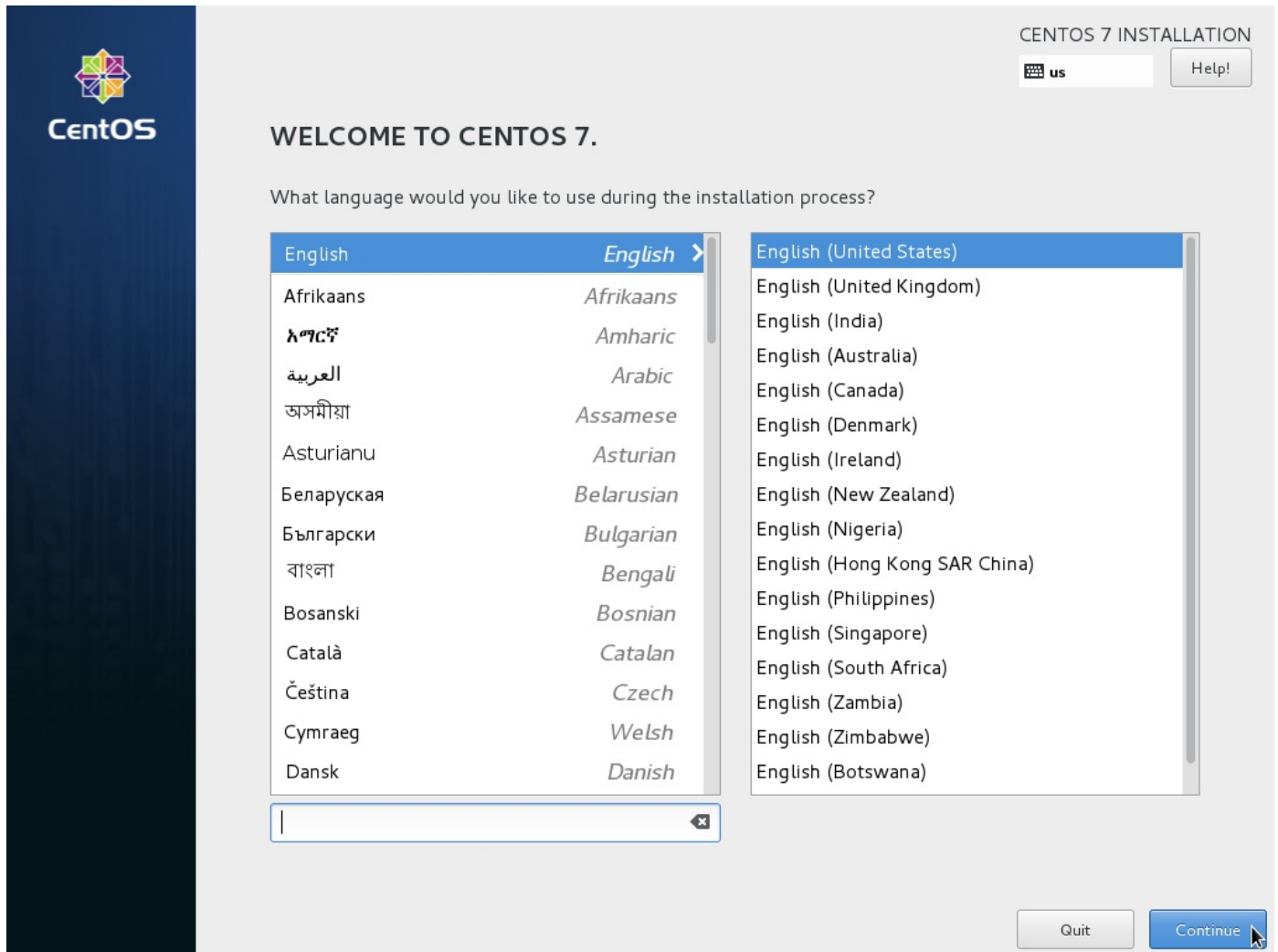
Test this media & install CentOS 7

Troubleshooting

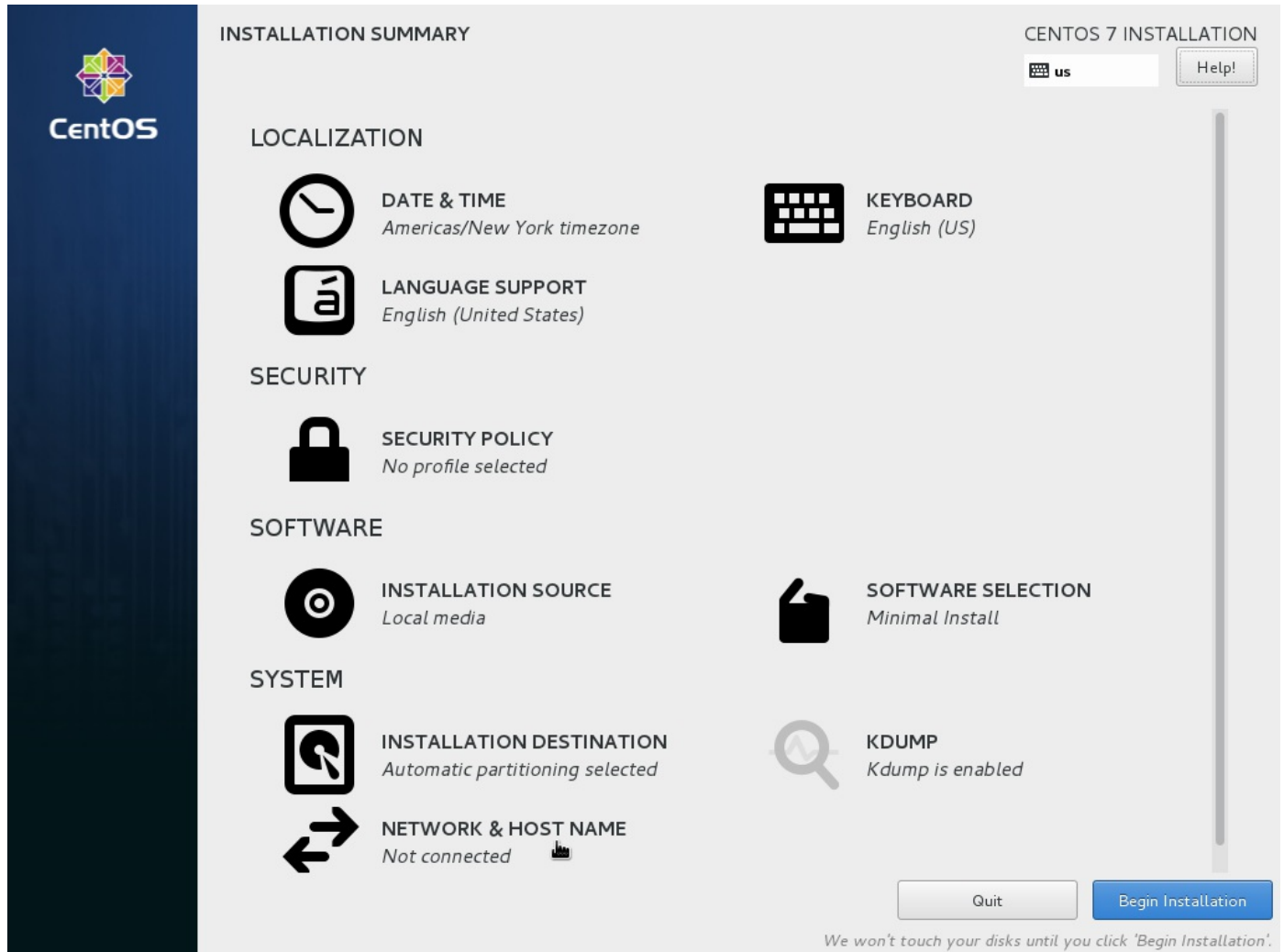
>

Press Tab for full configuration options on menu items.

3. After the installer loads, make sure that "English (United States)" is selected as the language and click the Continue button.



4. On the main install screen, click "Network & Host Name"



5. Enter the desired hostname in the "Host name" box. If the computer should use DHCP instead of a static IP, skip the next step. If a static IP is needed, click the "Configure" button.

NETWORK & HOST NAME

CENTOS 7 INSTALLATION

Done

us

Help!

Ethernet (enp0s3)

Intel Corporation 82540EM Gigabit Ethernet Controller (PRO/1000 MT Desk

+ -

Ethernet (enp0s3)

Disconnected

Hardware Address 08:00:27:48:DD:02

Speed 1000 Mb/s

OFF

Configure...

Host name: dns406

6. To configure the static IP, select the "IPv4 Settings" tab, select "Manual" from the drop-down menu, and click the Add button. Enter the desired IP address, netmask (or CIDR mask), and gateway. List the DNS servers to use in the "DNS Servers" box and separate each one with commas. Click the Save button.

NETWORK & HOST NAME

Done

CENTOS 7 INSTALLATION

us

Help!

Ethernet (enp0s3)
Intel Corporation 82540EM Gigabit Ethernet Controller (PRO/1000 MT Desk

Ethernet (enp0s3)
Disconnected

OFF

Editing enp0s3

Connection name: enp0s3

GeneralEthernet802.1x SecurityDCBIPv4 SettingsIPv6 Settings

Method: Manual

Addresses

Address	Netmask	Gateway	
192.168.1.2	24	192.168.1.1	<div>Add</div> <div>Delete</div>

DNS servers: 8.8.8.8, 8.8.4.4

Search domains:

DHCP client ID:

☐ Require IPv4 addressing for this connection to complete

Routes...

Cancel

Save

Configure...

+ -

Host name: dns406

7. Click the On/Off toggle to turn the network interface on. If no static IP was entered, DHCP will be used. Click the Done button.

NETWORK & HOST NAME

Done

CENTOS 7 INSTALLATION

us

Help!

Ethernet (enp0s3)
Intel Corporation 82540EM Gigabit Ethernet Controller (PRO/1000 MT Deskt

+

-

Host name:

Ethernet (enp0s3)
Connected

Hardware Address 08:00:27:48:DD:02

Speed 1000 Mb/s

IP Address 10.0.2.15

Subnet Mask 255.255.255.0

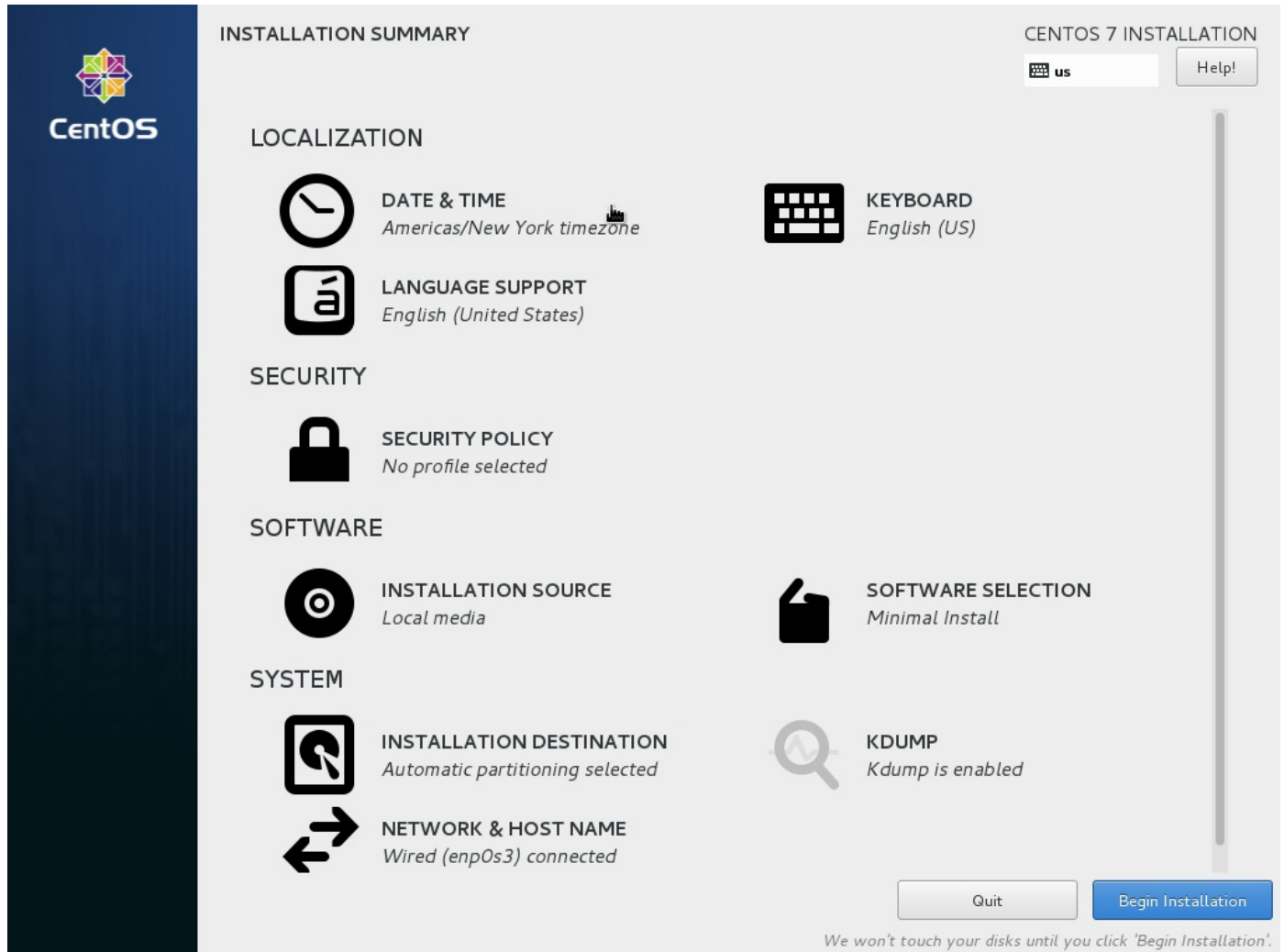
Default Route 10.0.2.2

DNS 8.8.8.8 8.8.4.4

ON

Configure...

8. Back on the main install screen, click "Date & Time".



9. Select the appropriate time zone. For US Central time, select "Americas/Chicago". Make sure that the "Network Time" in the upper right is set to "On". Click the Done button.

DATE & TIME

CENTOS 7 INSTALLATION

Done


us

Help!

Region: Americas

City: Chicago

Network Time ON



16:03 PM

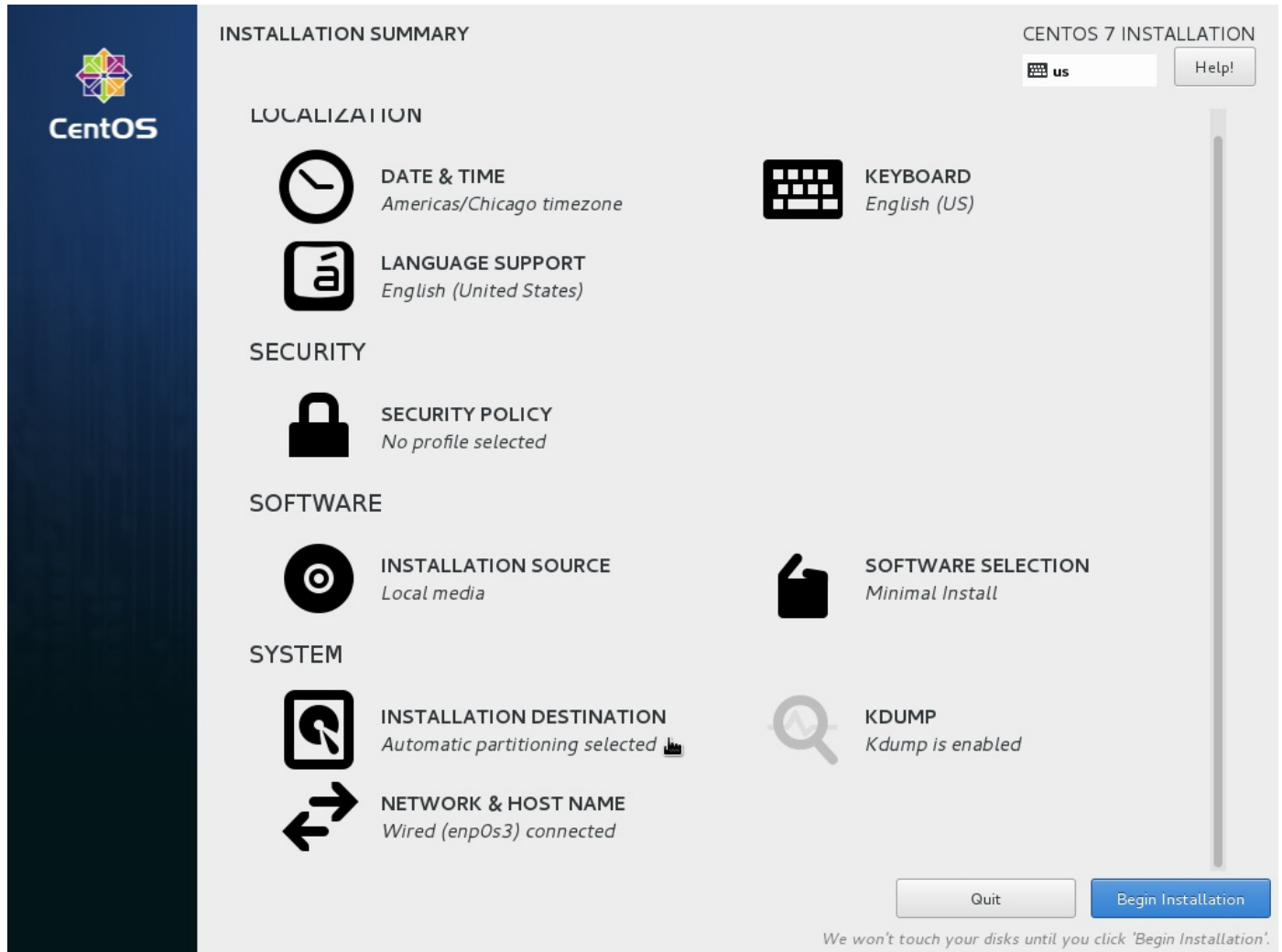
☒ 24-hour
☐ AM/PM

07

31

2016

10. Back on the main install screen, click "Installation Destination".



11. Make sure that "Automatically configure partitioning" is selected. Click the Done button.

INSTALLATION DESTINATION

CENTOS 7 INSTALLATION

Done

us


Help!

Device Selection

Select the device(s) you'd like to install to. They will be left untouched until you click on the main menu's "Begin Installation" button.

Local Standard Disks

20 GiB




ATA VBOX HARDDISK

sda / 992.5 KiB free

Disks left unselected here will not be touched.

Specialized & Network Disks



Add a disk...

Disks left unselected here will not be touched.

Other Storage Options

Partitioning

☒ Automatically configure partitioning. ☐ I will configure partitioning.

☐ I would like to make additional space available.

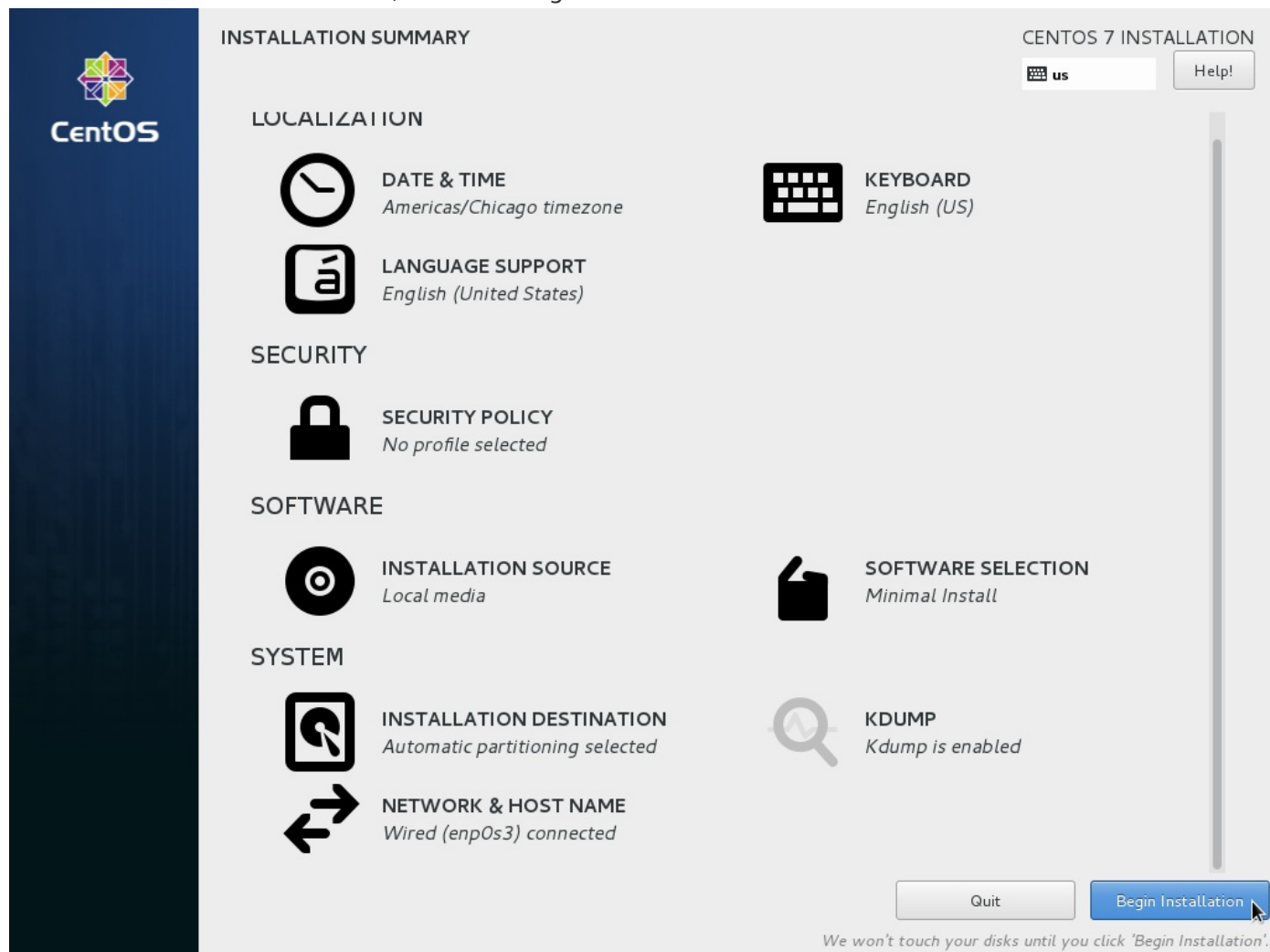
Encryption

☐ Encrypt my data. You'll set a passphrase next.

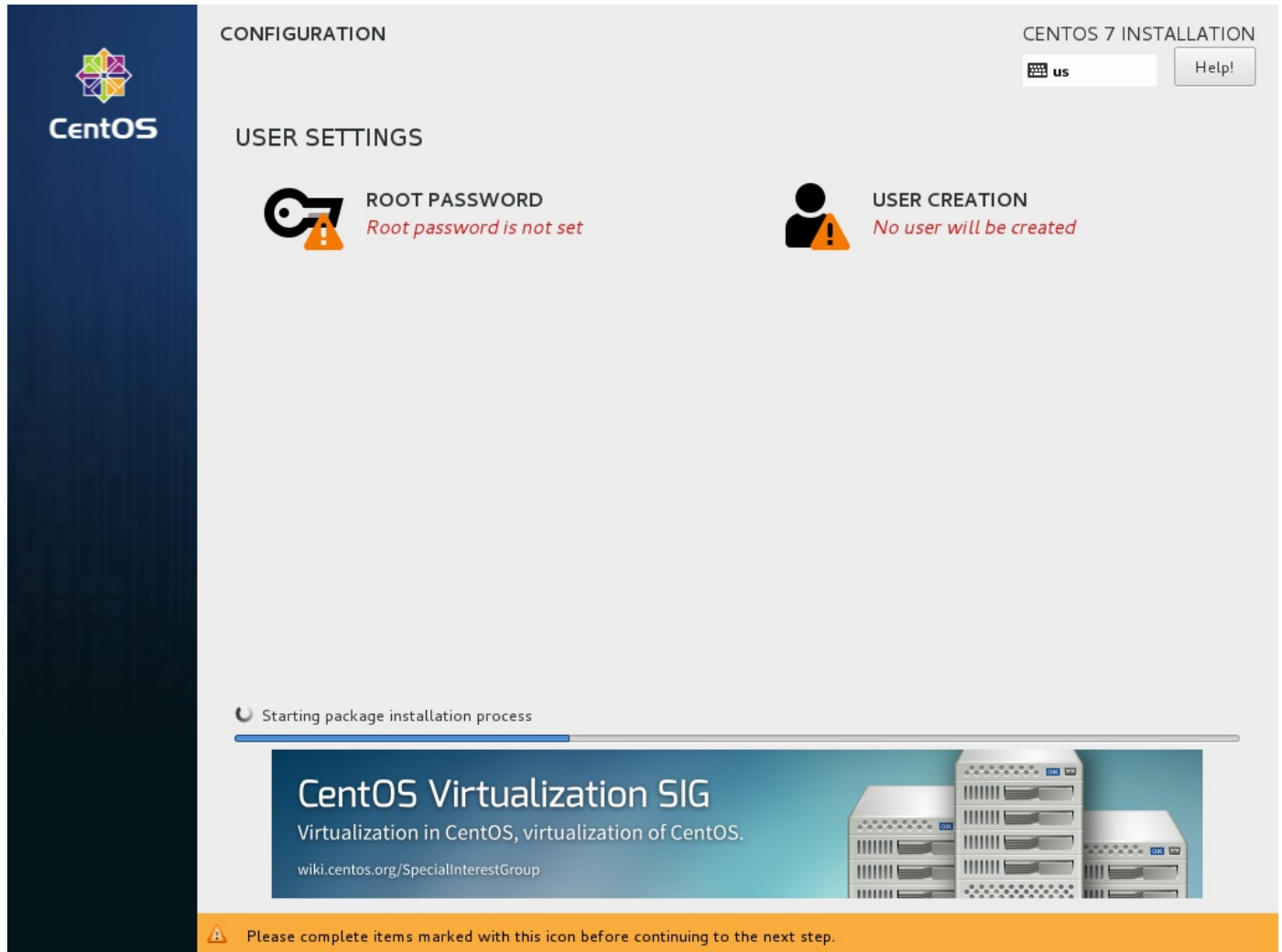
[Full disk summary and boot loader...](#)

1 disk selected; 20 GiB capacity; 992.5 KiB free

12. Back on the main install screen, click the Begin Installation button.



13. While the operating system is being installed, click "Root Password".



14. Enter the desired root user password in both boxes. Click the Done button.

ROOT PASSWORD

CENTOS 7 INSTALLATION

Done

us

Help!

The root account is used for administering the system. Enter a password for the root user.

Root Password:

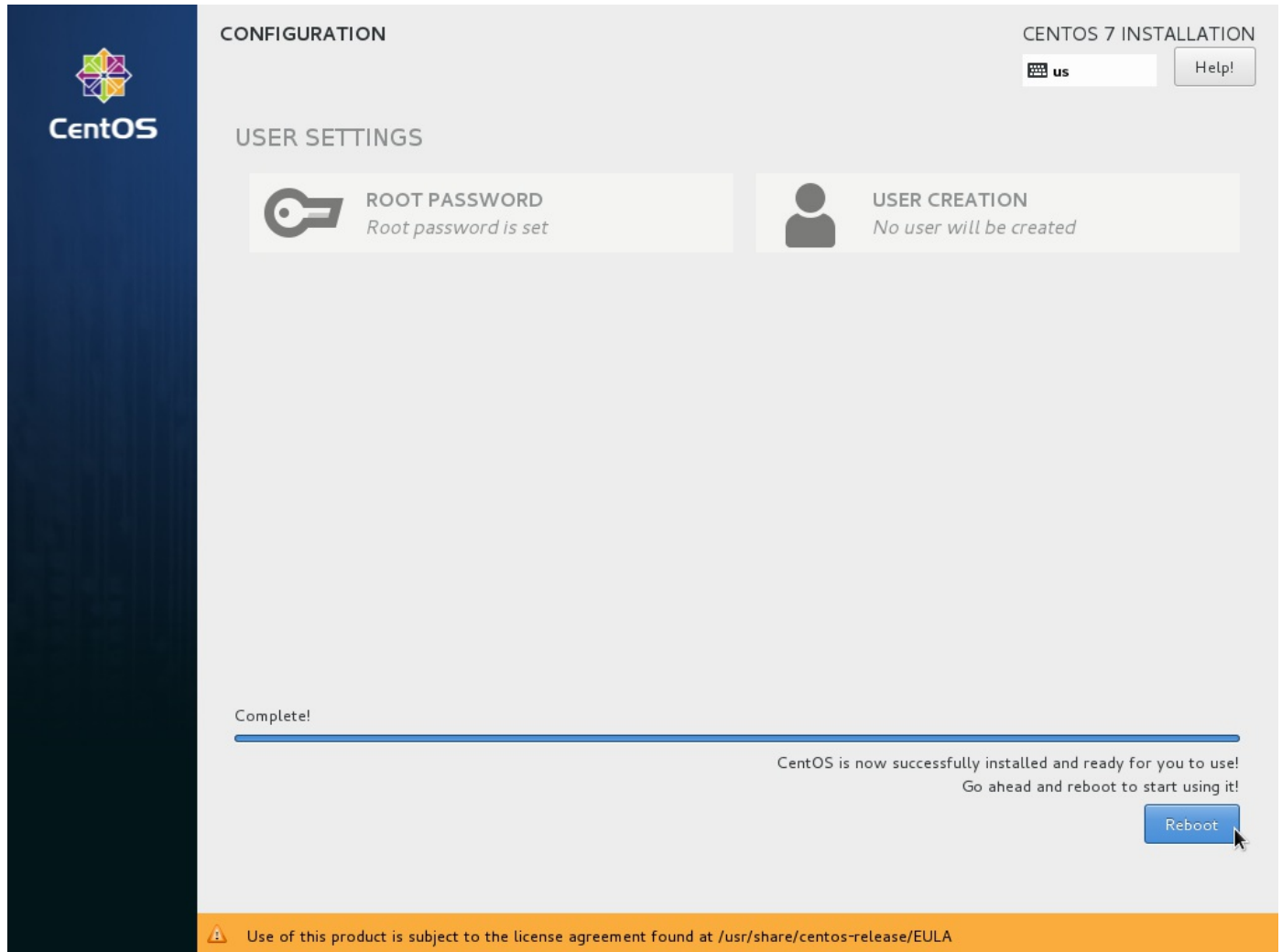
.....

Strong

Confirm:

.....

15. After the install has finished, click the Reboot button.



16. Make sure to remove the install disk from the CD drive

Prerequisites

Note that some of these prerequisites are for the BIND application and others are useful utilities to aid in setup.

1. Once the system has restarted to the login prompt, login with the username `root` and the password that was set during the install.
2. Install prerequisites. Answer 'y' or 'yes' if prompted to confirm the install or import a GPG key.

```
yum install screen vim bind-utils wget openssl-devel gcc automake net-tools  
checkpolicy policycoreutils-python perl-Net-DNS-Nameserver perl-IO-Socket-INET6
```

3. Update the system. Answer 'y' or 'yes' if prompted to confirm the install or import a GPG key.

```
yum update
```

4. After the system is updated, reboot the system.

```
reboot
```

5. When the system has finished restarting, log back in as the `root` user.
6. Create the `named` user. This is the user that BIND runs as instead of the `root` user.

```
useradd -r -M -d /var/named/chroot -s /sbin/nologin named
```

7. Allow DNS queries through the host firewall.

```
firewall-cmd --permanent --add-service=dns  
firewall-cmd --reload
```

8. Create the file for an SELinux policy. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
vim -c 'set paste' /tmp/named-custom.te
```

9. Copy and paste the following into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.


```

module named-custom 1.0;
require {
    type sysctl_net_t;
    type named_t;
    class dir search;
    class file { read getattr open };
}
#===== named_t =====
allow named_t sysctl_net_t:dir search;
allow named_t sysctl_net_t:file { read getattr open };

```

10. Build and load the policy into SELinux.

```

checkmodule -M -m -o /tmp/named-custom.mod /tmp/named-custom.te && semodule_package -
o /tmp/named-custom.pp -m /tmp/named-custom.mod && semodule -i /tmp/named-custom.pp

```

11. Add a non-root user, set the password, and allow the user to run commands via `sudo`. Replace **username** with the desired username.

```

useradd username
passwd username
echo "username ALL=(ALL) ALL" >> /etc/sudoers

```

12. Log into the non-root user account. Replace **username** with the chosen username. Enter the previously set password when prompted. After logging in, change into the non-root user's home directory.

```

su username -
cd

```

Install BIND

All remaining steps should be done with the non-root user account. See [Prerequisites section](#) for logging into the non-root account.

Download and Verify

1. Go to the Internet Systems Consortium website in the downloads section: <https://www.isc.org/downloads/>. Click on the 'BIND' option under 'Downloads' to expand the available downloads. Click on the Download button for the 'Current-Stable' release.

Downloads

BIND					
BIND SOFTWARE VERSION	STATUS	DOWNLOAD	DOCUMENTATION	LATEST RELEASE DATE / NOTES	EOL DATE
9.10.4-P2	Current-Stable	Download	BIND 9.10 ARM	July 2016 / Release Notes (HTML, PDF)	TBA

2. In the popup box, right click on the `tar.gz` download box and click 'Copy Link Location' (or 'Copy link address', or something similar, depending on the browser) to copy the file URL to the clipboard.

Thank you for Downloading ISC Software



Get BIND Support Subscription

Thank you for downloading ISC's Open Source Software!

The screenshot shows two download boxes for BIND 9.10.4-P2. The first box is for the 'tar.gz' version, and the second is for the 'win 32-bit' version. Both boxes list signatures: ASC, SHA1, SHA256, and SHA512. A right-click context menu is open over the 'tar.gz' box, with the 'Copy Link Location' option highlighted. The menu options are: Open Link in New Tab, Open Link in New Window, Open Link in New Private Window, Bookmark This Link, Save Link As..., Save Link to Pocket, Copy Link Location, Search Yahoo for "BIND 9.10.4-P2 ...", and Inspect Element (Q).

3. On the command line of the CentOS 7 server, use `wget` to download the file. Paste the file URL previously copied where **file-url** is in the command below.

```
wget file-url -O bind.tar.gz
```

4. In the same popup box where the `tar.gz` file URL was copied on the ISC website, also copy the URL of the 'SHA512' file listed under the `tar.gz` box.

5. On the command line of the CentOS 7 server, use `wget` to download the 'SHA512' file. Paste the file URL previously copied where **file-url** is in the command below.

```
wget file-url -O bind.sha512.asc
```

6. Import the ISC GPG key to verify the downloaded file.

```
gpg --keyserver pgp.mit.edu --search-keys codesign@isc.org
```

Select the current signing key (the one that is not expired) by typing the number and hitting Enter.

```
gpg: directory `/home/username/.gnupg' created
gpg: new configuration file `/home/username/.gnupg/gpg.conf' created
gpg: WARNING: options in `/home/username/.gnupg/gpg.conf' are not yet active during
this run
gpg: keyring `/home/username/.gnupg/secring.gpg' created
gpg: keyring `/home/username/.gnupg/pubring.gpg' created
gpg: searching for "codesign@isc.org" from hkp server pgp.mit.edu
(1)      Internet Systems Consortium, Inc. (Signing key, 2015-2016) <codesign@i
      2048 bit RSA key 911A4C02, created: 2014-12-02, expires: 2017-01-31
(2)      Internet Systems Consortium, Inc. (Signing key, 2013) <codesign@isc.or
      2048 bit RSA key 189CDBC5, created: 2013-01-31, expires: 2015-01-31
(expired)
(3)      Internet Systems Consortium, Inc. (Signing key, 2012) (http://www.isc.
      2048 bit RSA key C96B350A, created: 2011-10-27, expires: 2013-02-01
(expired)
Keys 1-3 of 3 for "codesign@isc.org". Enter number(s), N)ext, or Q)uit > 1
gpg: requesting key 911A4C02 from hkp server pgp.mit.edu
gpg: /home/username/.gnupg/trustdb.gpg: trustdb created
gpg: key 911A4C02: public key "Internet Systems Consortium, Inc. (Signing key, 2015-
2016) <codesign@isc.org>" imported
gpg: no ultimately trusted keys found
gpg: Total number processed: 1
gpg:          imported: 1 (RSA: 1)
```

7. Verify the downloaded BIND software with the downloaded `SHA512` hash.

```
gpg --verify bind.sha512.asc bind.tar.gz
```

If the output shows `Good signature`, then the download is verified. Ignore the warning message about the key not being certified with a trusted signature.

```
gpg: Signature made Mon 18 Jul 2016 05:59:45 PM CDT using RSA key ID 911A4C02
gpg: checking the trustdb
gpg: no ultimately trusted keys found
```

```
gpg: Good signature from "Internet Systems Consortium, Inc. (Signing key, 2015-2016)
<codesign@isc.org>"
gpg: WARNING: This key is not certified with a trusted signature!
gpg:          There is no indication that the signature belongs to the owner.
Primary key fingerprint: ADBE 9446 286C 7949 05F1  E075 6FA6 EBC9 911A 4C02
```

Compile

1. Make a new empty directory to extract the BIND source code.

```
mkdir bind
```

2. Untar the downloaded BIND source code.

```
tar -xvf bind.tar.gz -C bind --strip 1
```

3. Change into the new directory.

```
cd bind
```

4. Run the script to configure the compilation options.

```
./configure --prefix=/usr --sysconfdir=/etc --enable-threads --enable-static --localstatedir=/var
```

5. Compile BIND.

```
make
```

Test

1. Enable the test environment.

```
sudo bin/tests/system/ifconfig.sh up
```

2. Check the built software and save the output to a log file.

```
make check | tee check.log
```

Note: This checking process will take a very long time, usually more than 15 minutes.

Note: It is helpful to save the output to a log file, because it is extremely long and it may be necessary to search through it to find any problems with the checks.

3. **None of the tests should have the result `FAIL`**. If the result is `SKIPPED` or `UNTESTED`, it is fine.

```
I:System test result summary:  
I:      69 PASS  
I:       7 SKIPPED  
I:       2 UNTESTED
```

4. If any tests have the result `FAIL`, clean the current build and start from the beginning of the [Compile](#) section. Otherwise, skip this step and continue.

```
make clean
```

5. Disable the test environment.

```
sudo bin/tests/system/ifconfig.sh down
```

Install

1. Install BIND.

```
sudo make install
```

2. Create the necessary directories for the BIND chroot environment.

```
sudo mkdir -p /var/named/chroot/dev /var/named/chroot/etc /var/named/chroot/proc  
/var/named/chroot/usr /var/named/chroot/var/named/data  
/var/named/chroot/var/run/named /var/named/chroot/run/named  
/var/named/chroot/var/named/slaves
```

3. Create a new file for the chroot setup script. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c "set paste" /usr/libexec/setup-named-chroot.sh
```

4. Copy the following code and paste it into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
#!/bin/bash  
usage() {  
    echo  
    echo 'This script setups chroot environment for BIND'  
    echo 'Usage: setup-named-chroot.sh ROOTDIR [on|off]'  
}  
if ! [ "$#" -eq 2 ]; then  
    echo 'Wrong number of arguments'  
    usage  
    exit 1  
fi  
ROOTDIR="$1"  
# Exit if ROOTDIR doesn't exist  
if ! [ -d "$ROOTDIR" ]; then  
    echo "Root directory $ROOTDIR doesn't exist"  
    usage  
    exit 1  
fi  
mount_chroot_conf() {  
    if [ -s /etc/localtime ]; then  
        cp -fp /etc/localtime ${ROOTDIR}/etc/localtime  
    fi;  
    if [ ! -d ${ROOTDIR}/proc ]; then  
        mkdir -p ${ROOTDIR}/proc  
    fi  
    if ! egrep -q '^/proc[[:space:]]+${ROOTDIR}/proc' /proc/mounts; then  
        mount --bind -n /proc ${ROOTDIR}/proc >/dev/null 2>&1  
    fi  
}
```



```

fi
}
umount_chroot_conf() {
    if [ -n "$ROOTDIR" ]; then
        umount ${ROOTDIR}/proc
    fi
}
case "$2" in
    on)
        mount_chroot_conf
        ;;
    off)
        umount_chroot_conf
        ;;
    *)
        echo 'Second argument has to be "on" or "off"'
        usage
        exit 1
esac

```

5. Create the pseudo-devices for the chroot environment.

```

sudo mknod /var/named/chroot/dev/null c 1 3
sudo mknod /var/named/chroot/dev/random c 1 8

```

6. Set the appropriate file and directory permissions.

```

sudo chmod 740 /usr/libexec/setup-named-chroot.sh
sudo chown -R root.named /var/named/chroot/etc /var/named/chroot/var/run/named
/var/named/chroot/var/run
sudo chown -R named.named /var/named/chroot/var/named
sudo restorecon -R /var/named/chroot/*
sudo setsebool -P named_write_master_zones on

```

7. Create a file for the systemd startup of the chroot environment. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```

sudo vim -c "set paste" /usr/lib/systemd/system/named-chroot-setup.service

```

8. Copy and paste the following into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```

[Unit]
Description=Set-up/destroy chroot environment for named (DNS)
BindsTo=named.service
[Service]
Type=oneshot
RemainAfterExit=yes

```

```
ExecStart=/usr/libexec/setup-named-chroot.sh /var/named/chroot on
ExecStop=/usr/libexec/setup-named-chroot.sh /var/named/chroot off
```

9. Create a file for the systemd startup of BIND. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c "set paste" /usr/lib/systemd/system/named.service
```

10. Copy and paste the following into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
[Unit]
Description=Berkeley Internet Name Domain (DNS)
Wants=nss-lookup.target
Requires=named-chroot-setup.service
Before=nss-lookup.target
After=network.target
After=named-chroot-setup.service
[Service]
Type=forking
EnvironmentFile=/etc/sysconfig/named
Environment=KRB5_KTNAME=/etc/named.keytab
ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/named-checkconf -t /var/named/chroot -z /etc/named.conf
ExecStart=/usr/sbin/named -u named -t /var/named/chroot $OPTIONS
ExecReload=/bin/sh -c '/usr/sbin/rndc reload > /dev/null 2>&1 || /bin/kill -HUP
$MAINPID'
ExecStop=/bin/sh -c '/usr/sbin/rndc stop > /dev/null 2>&1 || /bin/kill -TERM
$MAINPID'
PrivateTmp=false
[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

11. Restart the systemd daemon to load the new startup files.

```
sudo systemctl daemon-reload
```

Configure BIND

Basic Configuration

This is the minimum configuration needed for the BIND server to start and run as a basic caching DNS server. Additional configuration and security settings can be found in later sections.

1. Create the new config file. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c 'set paste' /var/named/chroot/etc/named.conf
```

2. Copy and paste the following into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
options {
    directory "/var/named";
    pid-file "/var/run/named/named.pid";
    statistics-file "/var/run/named/named.stats";
};
zone "." {
    type hint;
    file "root.hints";
};
zone "0.0.127.in-addr.arpa" {
    type master;
    file "0.0.127.in-addr.arpa";
};
logging {
    category default { default_syslog; default_debug; };
    category unmatched { null; };
    channel default_syslog { syslog daemon; severity info; };
    channel default_debug { file "named.run"; severity dynamic; };
    channel default_stderr { stderr; severity info; };
    channel null { null; };
};
```

3. Create the `rndc` configuration.

```
sudo su -c 'rndc-confgen -r /dev/urandom -b 512 > /var/named/chroot/etc/rndc.conf'
```

4. Add the necessary configuration to the `named.conf` for `rndc`.

```
sed '/conf/d;/^#/#!d;s:^# ::' /var/named/chroot/etc/rndc.conf | sudo tee -a /var/named/chroot/etc/named.conf >/dev/null
```

5. Create the necessary symlinks for the `named.conf` and `rndc.conf` files from inside the chroot environment to outside it.

```
sudo ln -s /var/named/chroot/etc/named.conf /etc/named.conf
sudo ln -s /var/named/chroot/etc/rndc.conf /etc/rndc.conf
```

6. Create the localhost reverse zone file. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c 'set paste' /var/named/chroot/var/named/0.0.127.in-addr.arpa
```

7. Copy and paste the following into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
$TTL 3D
@       IN SOA  ns.local.domain. hostmaster.local.domain. (
        2016010100      ; Serial
        8H              ; Refresh
        2H              ; Retry
        4W              ; Expire
        1D              ; Minimum TTL
)
NS      ns.local.domain.
1 PTR   localhost.
```

8. Create the root hints file.

```
sudo su -c 'dig +nocmd +noall +answer +additional @a.root-servers.net . NS >
/var/named/chroot/var/named/root.hints'
```

9. Start the BIND service.

```
sudo systemctl start named
```

10. Enable BIND to run on startup.

```
sudo systemctl enable named
```

11. Test that the DNS server works and caches correctly. Look up the same domain twice in succession and note the difference in query times. The second query is much faster because the DNS server has

cached the result of the query.

```
dig @localhost +nocomments +nocmd +noauthority +noquestion +noadditional facebook.com
```

```
facebook.com.          300      IN      A      66.220.156.68
;; Query time: 190 msec
```

```
dig @localhost +nocomments +nocmd +noauthority +noquestion +noadditional facebook.com
```

```
facebook.com.          297      IN      A      66.220.156.68
;; Query time: 0 msec
```

Forward Zone Configuration

If desired, a forward zone can be configured on the DNS server. Here the `example.com` zone is used. A forward zone is one that translates names such as `example.com` into IP addresses such as `192.168.1.2`.

1. Create the zone file. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c 'set paste' /var/named/chroot/var/named/example.com
```

2. Copy and paste the following into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
$TTL 3D
@      IN SOA  ns.example.com. hostmaster.example.com. (
        2016010100      ; serial
        8H              ; refresh, seconds
        2H              ; retry, seconds
        4W              ; expire, seconds
        1D )            ; minimum, seconds
A      192.168.1.2
NS     ns
ns     A      192.168.1.1
www    CNAME  @
```

The basic components of the file are as follows. The values may be changed to fit the zone.

- `$TTL 3D` - The default time to live for the records in this zone. This is the amount of time that a caching name server will keep the record before letting it expire.
- `@ IN SOA ns.example.com. hostmaster.example.com.` - The start of authority record for this zone. The `@` is automatically substituted with the zone name `example.com`. `ns.example.com` is the primary name server for this zone. It must have an `A` record, as seen later in the file. `hostmaster.example.com` is the administrator of the zone. Note the dots at the ends of both names. They are very important.
- `2016010100` - The serial number, usually in the format `YYYYMMDDNN`, where the last two digits `NN` are a revision number for the date. This is used by slave servers to determine when there has been a change to the zone and when they should get an updated copy from the master server.
- `8H` - The length of time before a slave server should try to refresh the zone from the master.
- `2H` - The time between retries if the slave fails to contact the master for the zone.
- `4W` - The time until the zone is no longer authoritative. This value only applies to slave servers.
- `1D` - The amount of time a caching name server should wait before retrying when an `NXDOMAIN` result is returned for the zone.
- `A 192.168.1.2` - The `A` record for the zone. This means that `example.com` will resolve to `192.168.1.2`. Note that, with this record and the one following, there is no hostname before the record type. This is a shortcut that can be used in the zone files. The last listed hostname, which in this case is the zone name `example.com`, is used as the hostname for these records.

- `NS ns` - The `NS` record for the zone that identifies the primary name server. It points to the name `ns`, which in turn has an `A` record that points to the IP address `192.168.1.1`.
 - `www CNAME @` - A `CNAME` or alias record for the zone. This is effectively the same as `www CNAME example.com.` because the `@` is substituted with the zone name. The alias record means that `www.example.com` will alias to `example.com` which will resolve to `192.168.1.2`.
3. Edit the `named.conf` file. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c 'set paste' /var/named/chroot/etc/named.conf
```

4. Copy and paste the following at the end of the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
zone "example.com" {  
    type master;  
    notify no;  
    file "example.com";  
};
```

The basic components of the entry are as follows.

- `zone "example.com"` - The zone definition. This gives the name to the zone.
- `type master` - The zone is a master zone, meaning this server is authoritative for the zone.
- `notify no;` - Do not send notifies to any other DNS servers. Sending notifies is unnecessary unless there are slave servers for the zone.
- `file "example.com"` - Defines the file that contains the zone records. This is a relative path based on the `directory` option earlier in the file.

5. Restart the BIND service.

```
sudo systemctl restart named
```

6. Test the new zone with some lookups. The results should show the server answering correctly for the zone.

```
dig @localhost +noall +answer example.com
```

```
example.com.          259200  IN      A       192.168.1.2
```

```
dig @localhost +noall +answer www.example.com
```

www.example.com.	259200	IN	CNAME	example.com.
example.com.	259200	IN	A	192.168.1.2

```
dig @localhost +noall +answer +additional example.com NS
```

example.com.	259200	IN	NS	ns.example.com.
ns.example.com.	259200	IN	A	192.168.1.1

7. If any changes are made to the zone file, the serial number must be incremented by at least one. However, it is recommended to continue using the `YYYYMMDDNN` format that follows the date. After the changes to the file are saved, the `rndc` command can be used to reload the zones without restarting the BIND service.

```
rndc reload
```


Reverse Zone Configuration

If desired, a reverse zone can be configured. The reverse zone resolves IP addresses such as `192.168.1.2` to names such as `example.com`. The reverse zone, unlike the forward zone, is tied to a classful subnet. This means that the IP address `192.168.1.2/24` would be in a different zone than `192.168.2.2/24`. The reverse zones are always named with the reversed octets of the network portion of the IP address followed by `.in-addr.arpa`. For this example, the zone will be `1.168.192.in-addr.arpa`.

1. Create the zone file. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c 'set paste' /var/named/chroot/var/named/1.168.192.in-addr.arpa
```

2. Copy and paste the following into the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
$TTL 3D
@      IN SOA  ns.example.com. hostmaster.example.com. (
        2016010103      ; serial
        8H              ; refresh, seconds
        2H              ; retry, seconds
        4W              ; expire, seconds
        1D )            ; minimum, seconds
NS     ns.example.com.
1      PTR    ns.example.com.
2      PTR    example.com.
2      PTR    www.example.com.
```

The `TTL`, `SOA`, and `NS` records are the same as in the forward zone. However, the other records are different.

The type of record for the reverse zone is `PTR`. Instead of the name on the left and the IP on the right as in an `A` record, they are reversed. On the left side, the reversed octets of the host portion of the IP address are listed. On the right side, the fully qualified domain name (FQDN) including the `.` at the end are listed. It is important to have the `.` at the end of the name to absolutely globally identify the name.

3. Edit the `named.conf` file. Press the 'i' key to enter insert mode.

```
sudo vim -c 'set paste' /var/named/chroot/etc/named.conf
```

4. Copy and paste the following at the end of the file. Return to normal mode by pressing Esc. Save and close the file by typing `:x` and then hitting Enter.

```
zone "1.168.192.in-addr.arpa" {
    type master;
    notify no;
```

```
    file "1.168.192.in-addr.arpa";  
};
```

3. Restart the BIND service.

```
sudo systemctl restart named
```

4. Test the new zone with some lookups. The results should show the server answering correctly for the zone.

```
dig @localhost +noall +answer -x 192.168.1.1
```

```
1.1.168.192.in-addr.arpa. 259200 IN      PTR      ns.example.com.
```

```
dig @localhost +noall +answer -x 192.168.1.2
```

```
2.1.168.192.in-addr.arpa. 259200 IN      PTR      example.com.  
2.1.168.192.in-addr.arpa. 259200 IN      PTR      www.example.com.
```

5. If any changes are made to the zone, follow the same procedure as the forward zone. Update the serial number in the zone file and use the `rndc` utility to reload the zone without restarting the BIND service.

```
rndc reload
```

Security

There are several issues to consider when setting up a secure BIND DNS server. There are steps to be taken to protect the whole server by making changes to the operating system, and there are configurations and best practices for the BIND software. Together, these will provide a defense-in-depth strategy to secure the BIND server.

Server Security

Although the topics mentioned in this section are essential to server security, implementation is outside the scope of this document. It is easy to find documentation on any one of these topics in numerous places.

1. Host firewall settings.

- CentOS uses the `firewalld` application to manage the underlying `iptables` Linux firewall system. The configuration utility is `firewall-cmd`.
- Although this application is easy to use, it limits the available options when configuring rules. It can be worthwhile to learn to configure `iptables` rules directly and disable the `firewalld` service.
- When constructing firewall rules, consider what users or subnets need to be able to access each service on the server. While everyone on the local network may need to access the BIND service to perform DNS lookups, not everyone needs to be allowed to the SSH service, only system administrators.

2. Local user accounts and passwords.

- Each system administrator should have a separate user account. No users should share accounts or passwords.
- Each account should have a sufficiently strong password. While it is very difficult to define what a 'strong password' is, length and diverse types of characters (uppercase, lowercase, digits, and punctuation) are certainly helpful.
- Do not reuse passwords.

3. SSH security.

- The `root` user should not be allowed to login via SSH.
- If possible, password authentication should be turned off and only key authentication used.
- Two factor authentication can also be used to enhance security.
- Limiting which users and IP addresses can connect is also useful to prevent brute force attempts.
- Other software, such as Fail2Ban, can be used to detect invalid login attempts and temporarily block the IP address from which they are coming.
- Strong ciphers should be used to ensure secure communication. See (https://wiki.mozilla.org/Security/Guidelines/OpenSSH#OpenSSH_server) for a current list of good cipher algorithms.

4. Backups.

- Backups, aside from being generally good practice, can be essential to security.
- They can be used to recover a server in the event that it has been breached and can no longer be trusted.
- They can also be used to recover in the event of crypto-locker malware or other deliberate destruction of important data.
- Good backups do not just keep a copy of the data, but keep multiple, frequent, historical copies in multiple geographically diverse locations.
- Protecting the backups can be as important as protecting the server. If an attacker is after the data, it does not matter if it comes from the server or a backup copy.

5. Updates.

- It is very important to keep up-to-date on patches to the operating system as well as the application.
- Many fear updates may break the working setup, but servers are not set-it-and-forget-it. They take frequent attention.
- If properly set up, there are ways to ensure that a bad update cannot completely destroy a system. There are multiple ways to take a 'snapshot' of the server, at a point in time before doing the update, so that it can be restored in the event of an update failure.

6. Other.

- There are many other security measures and good practices that are not often followed. Do some research, consult with security experts, and above all **do not be lazy!**
- Many more servers are breached due to known vulnerabilities, simple misconfigurations, not following best practices, or not keeping on top of security updates, than are exploited with sophisticated malware or 0-days.

BIND Security

1. Restrict zone transfers.

- The `allow-transfer` option can be used in the global options or individually for each zone in the `named.conf` file.
- It allows the administrator to limit the servers so that only known, trusted servers are allowed to transfer a whole zone.
- It is unwise to allow zone transfers from any server, as this is a great way for attackers to steal data and perform reconnaissance on a network.
- The syntax for this option is `allow-transfer { ipaddr; ipaddr; };` or `allow-transfer { "none"; };`.
- Inside the curly braces are a semicolon and space separated list of IP address that are allowed to zone transfer from this server.
- If the keyword "none" is used in quotes instead, then no zone transfers are allowed by any other server.
- Unless there is a known reason to allow transfers, such as slave DNS servers, then it is recommended to use the "none" keyword and block all zone transfers.

2. Limit recursive lookups to internal networks only.

- Recursive queries are queries from a client to the DNS server that cannot be answered by the server directly. Instead, these queries must be fulfilled by the server sending queries to other DNS servers in the DNS hierarchy until the requested domain is found.
- Generally, it is only desirable for known, internal users of the DNS to be able to perform these types of queries.
- If anyone is allowed to perform recursive queries on the DNS server, it can lead to abuse, exploitation, or performance degradation of the DNS server.
- The `allow-recursion` option can be used in the global options section to restrict recursive queries.
- The format is `allow-recursion { 192.168.1.0/24; 192.168.2.0/24; };` where the semicolon and space separated list inside the curly braces is those subnets or IP addresses allowed to perform recursive queries.

3. Run the `named` application as a non-root user.

- After the initial startup of BIND when it claims the network ports (usually TCP and/or UDP 53), there is no reason for it to have elevated privileges.
- Running the application as a non-privileged user can enhance security in the case that an attacker compromises the application. If they do so, they can only access a limited part of the system. If the application was run as `root`, then the whole system would be compromised, not just the application.

4. Run the `named` application in a chroot environment.

- The chroot provides an isolated area on the system that prevents anything inside from accessing the rest of the system.
- Similar to the previously mentioned tactic of running the application as a non-root user, this can

prevent the whole system from being compromised in the event that the application is compromised.