

Jenkins dead but pid file exists

Ask Question

I am running into an issue where a fresh install of Jenkins is not accessible. This is the error and OS details: Upon starting jenkins results in "OK" status message however if I run status-all | grep jenkins it results in:

```
jenkins dead but pid file exists
```

Running on Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server release 6.2 (Santiago) with Yum as package manager.

```
rpm -qa | grep java

java-1.7.0-openjdk-1.7.0.19-2.3.9.1.el6_4.x86_64
java-1.6.0-openjdk-1.6.0.0-1.61.1.11.11.el6_4.x86_64
tzdata-java-2011l-4.el6.noarch
libvirt-java-0.4.7-1.el6.noarch
libvirt-java-devel-0.4.7-1.el6.noarch
java-1.6.0-openjdk-devel-1.6.0.0-1.61.1.11.11.el6_4.x86_64
```


Permissions are:

```
ls -la /var/lib/jenkins/
total 8
drwxr-xr-x  2 jenkins jenkins 4096 Aug 27 00:21 .
drwxr-xr-x. 29 root    root    4096 Aug 27 14:47 ..
```

Has anyone resolved this before?

linux jenkins

asked Aug 27 '13 at 22:35

 **3ck**  
320 1 3 8


- Have a look at the log file and see what errors you're getting there. – Brad Peabody Aug 27 '13 at 22:42
- log files are empty. – 3ck Aug 27 '13 at 22:44
- How about catalina.out - that one empty too? Mine has all kinds of stuff in it. There's also a conf/logging.properties that you can use to adjust the log verbosity. – Brad Peabody Aug 28 '13 at 3:34
- No tomcat on this box. - Installed by this documentation: [wiki.jenkins-ci.org/display/JENKINS/](http://wiki.jenkins-ci.org/display/JENKINS/)... – 3ck Aug 28 '13 at 17:30

15 Answers


Change JENKINS\_AJP\_PORT="8009" (OR whatever value) to JENKINS\_AJP\_PORT="-1"

It will work for sure.

edited Jul 7 '14 at 5:52

 **Sufian**  
4,579 7 36 99

answered Jul 7 '14 at 5:26

 **user3811048**  
116 1 3

- I've no words to thank you! My Jenkins broke immediately after I installed Tomcat and I tried all kinds of fixes with no effect whatsoever until this! Thank you, thank you, thank you! – Stan Apr 10 '15 at 17:30
- @user3811048 -- I run the above command it successfully executed. but when i check the status again I am getting the same message jenkins dead but pid file exists – Varun Sep 16 '15 at 6:30
- 5 Why does this change work and what are the implications of making this change? There is nothing listening on 8009, but making this change does get Jenkins to restart. – Hazok Jul 6 '16 at 23:27

While following AWS tutorial on [Set up a build pipeline with Jenkins and Amazon ECS](#) I encountered the exact same error.

Changing ports did not solve the problem.

I figured out that the error was coming from the version of Java installed along Jenkins.

Updated java-1.7.0-openjdk to java-1.8.0-openjdk did the trick

EDIT: From Anatoly comment, to update java:

```
sudo yum install java-1.8.0-openjdk
```

and then remove old version:

```
sudo yum remove java-1.7.0-openjdk.x86_64
```

Finally, restart jenkins service

```
sudo service jenkins restart
```

edited Jun 21 '17 at 0:48

answered Jun 19 '17 at 0:30



CloC

63 1 6

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1 wow perfect, thank you. To update java: install `sudo yum install java-1.8.0-openjdk` and then remove old version `sudo yum remove java-1.7.0-openjdk.x86_64` – [Anatoly](#) Jun 20 '17 at 9:59

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yep that help me => I think amazon should fix the tutorial by now. – [pelos](#) Nov 10 '17 at 8:39

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Usually the tomcat service is taking over the 8080 port. Try to stop the tomcat service and rerun the jenkins service.

**`service tomcat stop;`**

**`service jenkins start`**

Worked for me.

answered Nov 2 '15 at 13:36



Isaace Eliussi

21 1

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I was getting the same error, I could not restart the instance in any way.

I did a "yum update" in the server and that fixed the problem.

- java version "1.7.0\_55"
- Jenkins ver. 1.571

answered Jul 10 '14 at 9:21



Miguel

667 7 8

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Wow, I tried many of the other solutions listed above this, and just updating it worked. I'm guessing some java library dependency was out of date after I updated to Java 8. – [Kimberly W](#) Sep 28 '17 at 18:38

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Just experienced this problem with RHEL install. The fix for me was to explicitly set the JENKINS\_JAVA\_CMD configuration parameter.

E.g.

```
sudo vim /etc/sysconfig/jenkins
update:
JENKINS_JAVA_CMD=""
to:
JENKINS_JAVA_CMD="/usr/java/default/bin/java"
```

answered Mar 26 '15 at 15:01



Brian Lenoski

only work if you have multiple java installations and it is using the wrong one. – Kimberly W Sep 28 '17 at 18:16

Just a hunch - RHEL/CentOS have file execution disabled on the /tmp directory by default.

Try:

```
mount -o remount,exec /tmp
```

And then (re)start Jenkins.

That enables binaries to be executed (also .so files to be loaded) from the /tmp/ directory, which it looks like this particular packaging of Jenkins requires in order to load some kind of JNI code. When I tried installing and running on CentOS 6.4 this was the only issue I had.

If that works, then you can either set it so this happens by default at startup using the settings in /etc/fstab (workable but lowers security on your system), or try to hack the startup process of the install you've got (not recommended), or install it using Tomcat or other packaging that doesn't require file execution on the /tmp directory (recommended but more work).

edited Aug 28 '13 at 18:12

answered Aug 28 '13 at 18:06



Brad Peabody

4,202 4 23 43

mount: can't find /tmp in /etc/fstab or /etc/mtab - I'm getting this error. – coding\_idiot Jan 29 '14 at 9:01

I'm having the same error. – Paulo Almeida Dec 20 '14 at 6:20

- 1 Note for the next person who wants to down vote this answer: The error "jenkins dead but pid file exists" means just that - you started jenkins and it died and only the pid file remains. That error message is not enough data to conclude *why* it died. My answer here was based on a hunch. Just because your Jenkins doesn't work and you don't know why, doesn't mean you should down vote my answer ;) I find it amusing that the post below that says "It will work for sure" is just as likely to not work - for the same reasons above. – Brad Peabody Apr 4 '15 at 8:45
- 1 Please please please down vote this answer - especially if you have no idea how to administer a Linux machine or what is wrong with yours. – Brad Peabody Nov 17 '15 at 22:25
- 1 @coding\_idiot - just answering for posterity - this error means there is no /tmp directory in the normal mount listing at /etc/fstab - you are probably running a different type of Linux. (Original post talks about RHEL, which is why my answer is specific to that.) – Brad Peabody Nov 17 '15 at 22:30

From the logs my issue was java.io.FileNotFoundException: /var/cache/jenkins/war/META-INF/MANIFEST.MF (Permission denied)

Which swithced ownership from my user Jenkins runs as to "jenkins", chown'ing fixed the problem

answered Feb 25 '15 at 12:44



Ian Watson

779 14 35

The following helped me:

some time there will be stale some jenkins processes, so `ps -ef | grep jenkins` kill all of them and restart as above it will be clean.

```
ps -ef | grep jenkins
sudo kill -kill <pid>
```

Taken from [here](#) (thanks to @sharp)

edited May 23 '17 at 12:02



Community ♦

1 1

answered May 28 '15 at 20:17



ItayB

2,564 4 23 41

```
cd /etc/sysconfig/jenkins
```

Change JENKINS\_AJP\_PORT

Change it from

```
JENKINS_AJP_PORT="8009"
```

```
JENKINS_AJP_PORT="-1"
```

edited Apr 7 '16 at 10:31



HadeS

1,568 10 26

answered Apr 7 '16 at 9:48



Manjunatha.N

33 3

Why does this change work and what are the implications of making this change? There is nothing listening on 8009, but making this change does get Jenkins to restart. – Hazok Jul 6 '16 at 23:26

for the above error i managed to go to /var/run/jenkins.pid and removed an already existing processing ID.

Then jenkins process was started and its running successfully now.

answered Jun 14 '16 at 7:27



Vignesh

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Ensure that the owner of the jenkins.log file is the jenkins user

```
chown jenkins:jenkins jenkins.log
```

Without correct ownership, jenkins will crash as soon as you start the service

answered Jan 20 '17 at 20:49



Sayse

28.2k 10 49 90

Try to change the user from jenkins to root in /etc/sysconfig/jenkins

```
JENKINS_USER="root"
```

OR

check the ownership of /var/lib/jenkins /var/cache/jenkins

Change the ownership to jenkins and change the user in /etc/sysconfig/jenkins to "jenkins" it will work. Also change the ownership of /var/logs/jenkins

answered Jul 12 '17 at 8:40



Chetan kapoor

135 1 5

The error I had was actually due to the fact that /var/run/jenkins was owned by root rather than the jenkins user. The following fixed the issue for me:

```
sudo chown -R jenkins:jenkins /var/run/jenkins
```

answered Feb 15 at 15:37



Yevgeniy Brikman

4,170 4 25 46

Please do changes in following steps(Assuming - you want to set port 8888 as jenkins port )

### 1. You have to edit /etc/init.d/jenkins.

Add the following two lines at the top of the file after DAEMON\_ARGS:

```
HTTP_PORT=8888 JENKINS_ARGS="--httpPort=$HTTP_PORT"
```

### 2.Edit the /etc/sysconfig/jenkins


and change

```
JENKINS_PORT="8888"
```

Check Jenkins' status

```
service jenkins status
```

edited Apr 6 at 19:07



Jay Blanchard

33.9k114792

answered Nov 23 '14 at 7:45



Mohsin - Angular Developer

11

```
sudo vim /etc/sysconfig/jenkins
update:
  JENKINS_USER="jenkins"
to:
```

```
JENKINS_USER="root"
```

work for me

edited Jul 6 '16 at 5:16



swiftBoy

27.8k23101111

answered Jul 6 '16 at 5:06



Vivi

1

Please edit with more information. Code-only and "try this" answers are discouraged, because they contain no searchable content, and don't explain why someone should "try this". We make an effort here to be a resource for knowledge. – abarisone Jul 6 '16 at 5:36