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Course/Section:CPE232 - 31S24	Date Submitted:
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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.

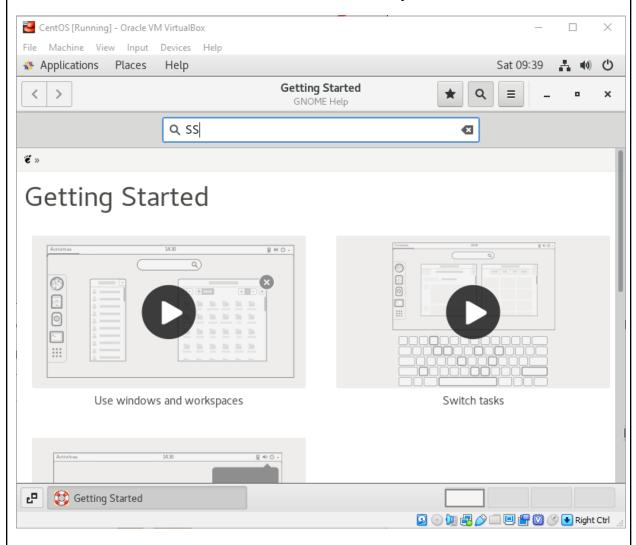
CentOS uses the RPM package format and YUM/DNF as the package manager.

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

Install the ssh server package openssh by using the dnf command:
 \$ dnf install openssh-server

```
[root@localhost cjaraula]# dnf install openssh-server
Extra Packages for Enterprise Linux 7 - x86 64
                                                       342 kB/s |
                                                                  17 MB
                                                                             00:50
                                                                  10 MB
CentOS-7 - Base
                                                       905 kB/s |
                                                                             00:11
CentOS-7 - Updates
                                                       1.1 MB/s | 21 MB
                                                                             00:18
                                                       311 kB/s | 332 kB
                                                                             00:01
CentOS-7 - Extras
Last metadata expiration check: 0:00:01 ago on Sat 03 Sep 2022 09:52:16 AM PST.
Package openssh-server-7.4p1-21.el7.x86 64 is already installed.
Dependencies resolved.
Nothing to do.
Complete!
   Start the sshd daemon and set to start after reboot:
      $ systemctl start sshd
      $ systemctl enable sshd
[root@localhost cjaraula]# systemctl start sshd
[root@localhost cjaraula]# systemctl enable sshd
[root@localhost cjaraula]#
   Confirm that the sshd daemon is up and running:
      $ systemctl status sshd
[root@localhost cjaraula]# systemctl status sshd
sshd.service - OpenSSH server daemon
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/sshd.service; enabled; vendor preset: enable
d)
   Active: active (running) since Sat 2022-09-03 09:55:51 PST; 1min 21s ago
     Docs: man:sshd(8)
          man:sshd config(5)
 Main PID: 1121 (sshd)
    Tasks: 1
   CGroup: /system.slice/sshd.service
           └─1121 /usr/sbin/sshd -D
Sep 03 09:55:50 localhost.localdomain systemd[1]: Starting OpenSSH server daemon...
Sep 03 09:55:51 localhost.localdomain sshd[1121]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22.
Sep 03 09:55:51 localhost.localdomain sshd[1121]: Server listening on :: port 22.
Sep 03 09:55:51 localhost.localdomain systemd[1]: Started OpenSSH server daemon.
Hint: Some lines were ellipsized, use -l to show in full.
[root@localhost cjaraula]#
   4. Open the SSH port 22 to allow incoming traffic:
      $ firewall-cmd --zone=public --permanent --add-service=ssh
      $ firewall-cmd --reload
[root@localhost cjaraula]# firewall-cmd --zone=public --permanent --add-service=ssh
Warning: ALREADY ENABLED: ssh
success
[root@localhost cjaraula]# firewall-cmd --reload
success
[root@localhost cjaraula]#
   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

```
[root@localhost cjaraula]# ls /etc/ssh/sshd_config
/etc/ssh/sshd_config
[root@localhost cjaraula]# systemctl reload sshd
[root@localhost cjaraula]#
```

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.
- On CentOS, verify that you have the <u>authorized_keys</u>.

```
jaraula@jaraula-VirtualBox:~$ ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id rsa cjaraula@192.168.56.
104
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: Source of key(s) to be installed: "/home/jaraula/.s
sh/id rsa.pub"
The authenticity of host '192.168.56.104 (192.168.56.104)' can't be established
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:kmF5r0+aJbhVienbfMwKl7qG4ugx3rQw57d6YlHF4hg.
This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: attempting to log in with the new key(s), to filter
out any that are already installed
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: 1 key(s) remain to be installed -- if you are promp
ted now it is to install the new keys
cjaraula@192.168.56.104's password:
Number of key(s) added: 1
Now try logging into the machine, with: "ssh 'cjaraula@192.168.56.104'"
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.
```

```
jaraula@jaraula-VirtualBox:~$ ssh cjaraula@192.168.56.104
Last login: Sat Sep  3 10:36:50 2022
```

```
[cjaraula@localhost ~]$ ls -la .ssh
total 8
drwx-----. 2 cjaraula cjaraula 29 Sep 3 10:37 .
drwx-----. 16 cjaraula cjaraula 4096 Sep 3 10:37 ..
-rw-----. 1 cjaraula c<u>j</u>araula 752 Sep 3 10:37 authorized_keys
```

Task 4: Verify ssh remote connection

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

```
jaraula@jaraula-VirtualBox:~$ ssh cjaraula@192.168.56.104
Last login: Sat Sep 3 10:36:50 2022
[cjaraula@localhost ~]$ ls -la .ssh
total 8
drwx-----. 2 cjaraula cjaraula 29 Sep 3 10:37 .
drwx-----. 16 cjaraula cjaraula 4096 Sep 3 10:37 ..
-rw-----. 1 cjaraula cjaraula 752 Sep 3 10:37 authorized_keys
[cjaraula@localhost ~]$ S
```

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?
 - I think that choosing redhat is better because it is a widely used distribution for servers and better server utilities
- 2. What are the main differences between Debian and Red Hat Linux distributions?

Debian uses .deb files while Red Hat uses .rpm.