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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.

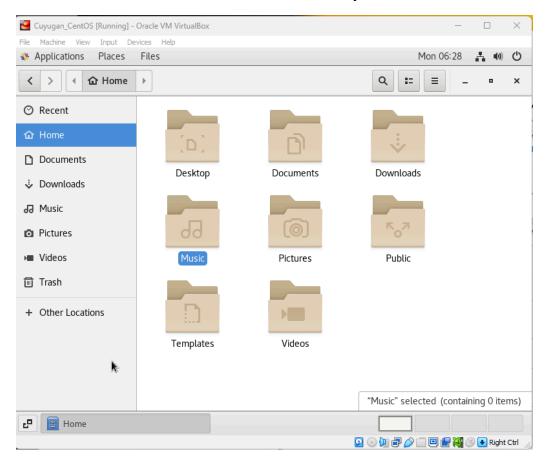
CentOS uses the RPM package format and YUM/DNF as the package manager.

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.

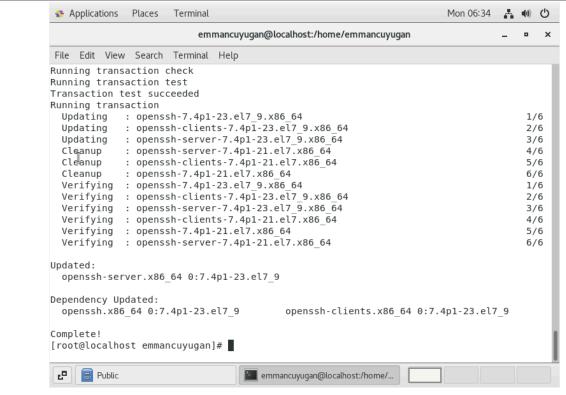
Task 1: Download the CentOS or RHEL-8 image (Create screenshots of the following)

- 1. 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



- 2. Start the **sshd** daemon and set to start after reboot:
 - \$ systemctl start sshd
 - \$ systemctl enable sshd

```
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ systemctl start sshd
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ systemctl enable sshd
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ ■
```

3. Confirm that the sshd daemon is up and running:

\$ systemctl status sshd

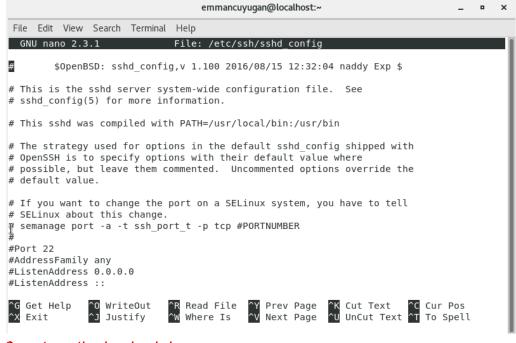
4. Open the SSH port 22 to allow incoming traffic:

\$ firewall-cmd --zone=public --permanent --add-service=ssh

\$ firewall-cmd --reload

```
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ firewall-cmd --zone=public--permanent --add-service=ssh
Error: INVALID_ZONE: public--permanent
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ firewall-cmd --zone=public --permanent --add-service=ssh
Warning: ALREADY_ENABLED: ssh
success
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ firewall-cmd --reload
```

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

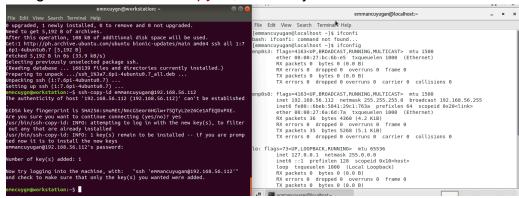
```
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ sudo nano /etc/ssh/sshd_config
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ systemctl reload sshd
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ ■
```

Task 3: Copy the Public Key to CentOS

1. Make sure that *ssh* is installed on the local machine.

```
emncuygn@workstation:~$ sudo apt install ssh
[sudo] password for emncuygn:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
 libllvm7
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove it.
The following NEW packages will be installed:
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 0 not upgraded.
Need to get 5,192 B of archives.
After this operation, 108 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://ph.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu bionic-updates/main amd64 ssh all 1:7
.6p1-4ubuntu0.7 [5,192 B]
Fetched 5,192 B in 0s (33.9 kB/s)
Selecting previously unselected package ssh.
(Reading database ... 166139 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../ssh_1%3a7.6p1-4ubuntu0.7_all.deb ...
Unpacking ssh (1:7.6p1-4ubuntu0.7) ...
Setting up ssh (1:7.6p1-4ubuntu0.7) ...
```

2. Using the command ssh-copy-id, connect your local machine to CentOS.



3. On CentOS, verify that you have the authorized_keys.

```
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$ cd ~/.ssh
[emmancuyugan@localhost .ssh]$ cat authorized_keys
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaClyc2EAAAADAQABAAACAQDFLchzP9qqx7b/2LC82ULbP2qA3k0v2835gp1XsGitmSfiIKA
0JjD1TpXEBGz/e17AFgYUH22mPcMM0EAj+WVaU6z4hsNLiEybD2owQ8I4icjapbK3/KILo7YW7Ne8fW1xY7JwAZ
kwDJYfm/MuYQFTKePfikfIfBPCtfLzjm8qKItoloTbzCCiWEW0PqP21MKGzdcSmcBKArDBueqXuDglWWaVd0D0r
20HdX7fYzLl8+Pa/ZJbcQZ/pvsmtrSG5RlRD0z4bS93XH6v8V2hx/QHgJatcP4g+WEd10/AcdI+00vwLrb3p5Bz
xNpKKYIItdf8Yw4SnD8d40KpHkwNBvjy7d5++NHf6EE86tJpInwxPHRaolm0uyiM6Y1xP0pK3WET+o3c2CzvIP0
d68nE72QA1WquQ037FzSiwWcJS8zqTmnDHepfQukaEJc94u36ucVDPC+nHh0HoTnZpeEfQQWnYfWGid5moCVQ+g
JnuZtoUPYHuuZEKIy8bPra4de0/0qWZTwMWFb2aaG0GYiglCNhcPPPgk3MPrjvT0/itCzM7d+0xolf+8e3Rqw8f
dvqVRkc5MJfEhFlyyPq0JjBxjagT2XZfUXKXm16U77MdQUczWVbod+95BDZ0rKXJhHDg4PRFLrmKSmns8i4heYG
Fn71wKyoi2VwL0mGaG+j8K6Jcw== emncuygn@workstation
```

Task 4: Verify ssh remote connection

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

```
emncuygn@workstation:~$ ssh emmancuyugan@192.168.56.112
Last login: Mon Jan 29 07:07:09 2024
[emmancuyugan@localhost ~]$
```

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?
 - Red Hat Linux requires a subscription while Debian releases of Linux are free and open-source. Debian also offers more software packages than Red Hat Linux distributions. Lastly, platform support, Red Hat supports fewer platforms than Debian
- 2. What are the main differences between Debian and Red Hat Linux distributions?
 - Red Hat needs a license while Debian releases don't because they're open source and free.