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I can't update the clamav antivirus [duplicate]

> **This question already has an answer here:**
> How to stop automatic freshclam execution   *2 answers*

I was updating the clamav antivirus defenitons with the `sudo freshclam` command and the output was:

```
ERROR: /var/log/clamav/freshclam.log is locked by another process
ERROR: Problem with internal logger (UpdateLogFile =
/var/log/clamav/freshclam.log).
```

security   antivirus   clamav

edited Aug 18 '16 at 15:20   asked Jan 8 '16 at 23:25

                                                        Henry WH Hack v2.1.1
                                                        448   5   10   20

> **marked** as duplicate by TheWanderer, Videonauth, Community ♦ Jun 20 '16 at 19:47
>
> This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not fully address your question, please ask a new question.

Also: askubuntu.com/questions/114000/... – michael Jan 9 '16 at 3:04

3 Answers

This is likely to be because the update is currently being run automatically, or you are running it
somewhere else (you would know about this). You can change how often it is run automatically, and
also stop it being run automatically by running the following:

```
sudo dpkg-reconfigure clamav-freshclam
```

After completing the setup you will be able to run `sudo freshclam` without error (unless you set it to
`cron` and you happen to execute the command at the time it automatically checks).

edited Jan 8 '16 at 23:36   answered Jan 8 '16 at 23:31

                                                        Paranoid Panda
                                                        20k   63   181   340

1   You are correct, this error is because the daemon is running. +1 for beating me to the answer. =) By the way, after
     completing the setup, it will let you run the `sudo freshclam`. – Terrance Jan 8 '16 at 23:33

     @Terrance: I'm sure I've also seen this question asked before (I think I may have even answered it), but I can't find it to
     mark as duplicate... – Paranoid Panda Jan 8 '16 at 23:34

     I know I have answered it too once before. =) I'll take a look. – Terrance Jan 8 '16 at 23:35

1   You actually asked it: askubuntu.com/q/636851/231142 – Terrance Jan 8 '16 at 23:37

     @Terrance: Oh, how funny! :D – Paranoid Panda Jan 9 '16 at 14:46

I suppose that you cannot update *clamav* database due to it being locked by running daemon. Presumably Ubuntu proceeds with an automatic update.

To update virus database manually, you have to stop daemon by typing in CLI:

```
sudo /etc/init.d/clamav-freshclam stop
```

Now you can update virus signatures:

```
sudo freshclam -v
```

Finally, restart daemon with

```
sudo /etc/init.d/clamav-freshclam start
```

answered Jan 9 '16 at 2:45

Christianus
129   1   9

> You'd be better off just setting it to `cron` in the configuration, why set it to `deamon` if you don't want it all the time? – Paranoid Panda Jan 9 '16 at 14:57

> I don't value what's better. I answered the question. – Christianus Jan 9 '16 at 22:10

Another thing to do is to edit the /var/log/clamav/freshclam. conf file and change the 1 to 0. This is the only datavthat you will see in the file, if not LEAVE IT ALONE!!!!!! and wait.

Do this ONLY IF THE OTHER SOLUTIONS DO NOT WORK! While this is a drastic step, what it does is to tell Freshclam that it hasn't run yet.

REMEMBER THIS IS ONLY THE FINAL SOLUTION if the other suggestions do not work.

answered Jan 9 '16 at 2:17

Edgar Naser
92   2