

Basic guidelines on RouterOS configuration and debugging

Martins Strods

MikroTik, Latvia

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

April 2017

What is the main idea of this?

"Little things matter and are very important"

RouterOS is the same everywhere



RouterOS management tools

RouterOS management

CLI (Command Line Interface)

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Console

Webfig

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Webfig

TikApp

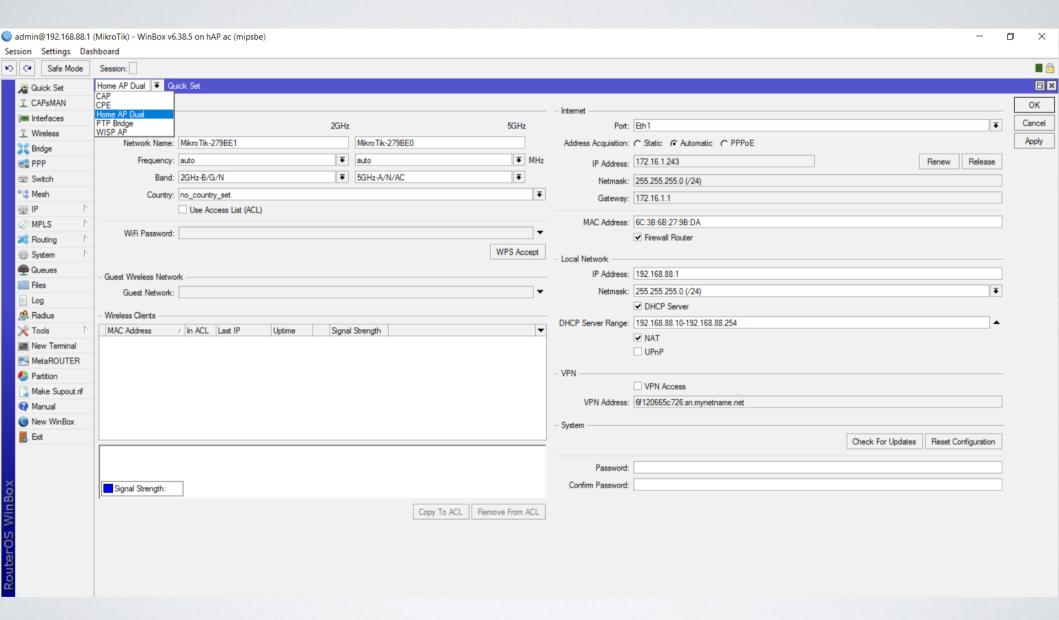
https://forum.mikrotik.com/viewtopic.php?t=98407

Winbox

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Winbox

The fastest way how to configure device

QuickSet



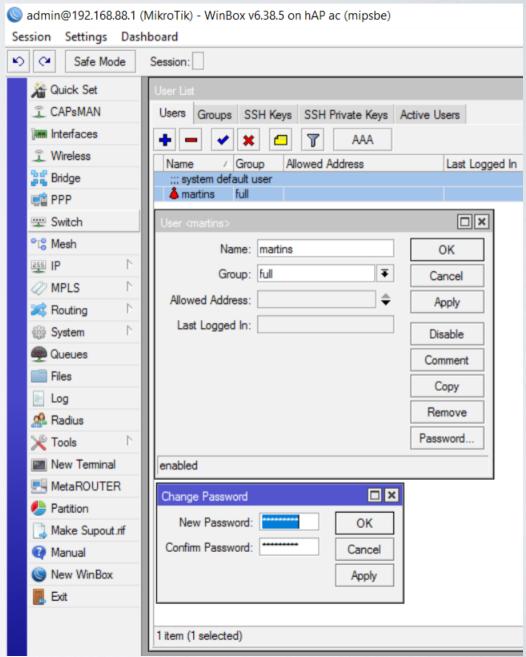
QuickSet

- Easy to use
- Contains the most commonly used features and should be enough for basic usage

Golden rule about QuickSet:

"If you use QuickSet, then use QuickSet, if you leave it, then forget about it..."

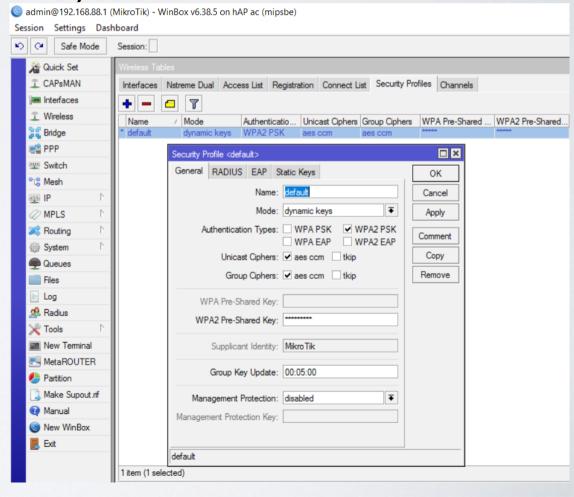
- Specify user password
 /user set admin password=***
- Use different username
 /user set admin name=martins



Specify password for wireless access

/interface wireless security-profiles set default authentication-types=wpa2-psk

mode=dynamic-keys wpa2-pre-shared-key=******

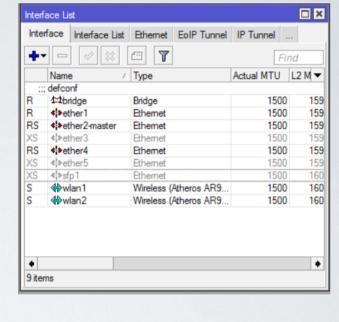


Disable unused interfaces

/interface ethernet disable ether3, ether5, sfp l

Disable unused packages (mainly IPv6)

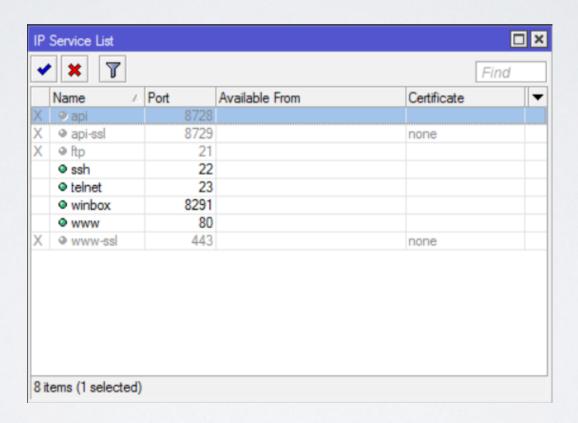
/system package disable hotspot,ipv6,mpls,ppp,routing



| · | C 20 E | M/00/2017 11:22:40 | Scheduled | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--|-----------------------|------|--|
| routeros-mipsbe | | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| advancedt | | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| a dhcp | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| ⇔ hotspot | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| ∃ ipv6 | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| ₱ mpls | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | scheduled for disable | | |
| ⊜ ррр | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | scheduled for disable | | |
| ☐ routing | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | scheduled for disable | | |
| security = | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| system | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| | 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |
| | | | | | |
| security system | 6.38.5 6.38.5 | Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 Mar/09/2017 11:32:49 | | | |

Disable IP/Services

/ip service disable api,api-ssl,ftp,www-ssl



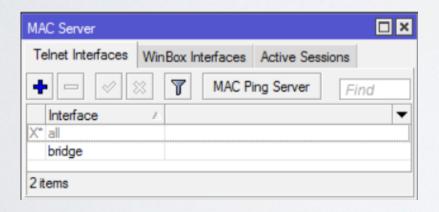
Adjust MAC access

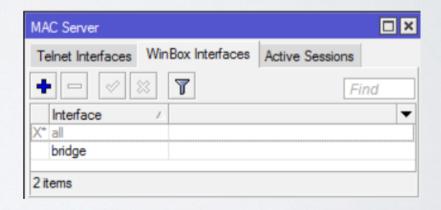
```
/tool mac-server set [ find default=yes ] disabled=yes
```

/tool mac-server add interface=bridge

/tool mac-server mac-winbox set [find default=yes] disabled=yes

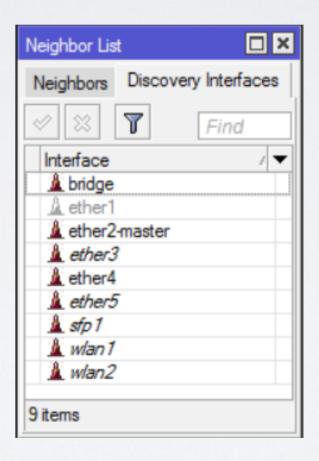
/tool mac-server mac-winbox add interface=bridge





Hide device in Neighbor Discovery

/ip neighbor discovery set ether | discover=no



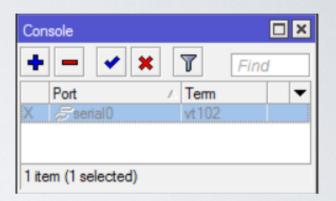
• Disable serial port if not used (and if included)

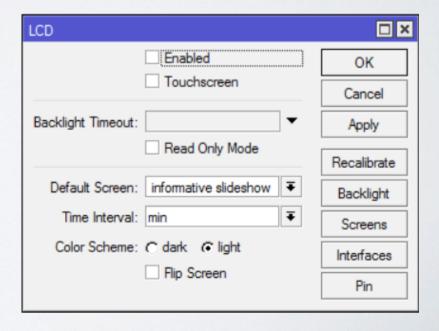
/system console disable [find where port=serial0]

Disable LCD

/lcd set enabled=no

/lcd set touch-screen=disabled





Protect reset button

```
/system routerboard settings set protected-routerboot=enabled reformat-hold-button=30s
```

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:RouterBOARD_settings#Protected_bootloader

Two approaches

- Drop not trusted and allow trusted
- Allow trusted and drop untrusted

```
/ip firewall filter add chain=forward action=accept src-address=192.168.88.2 out-interface=ether1
```

/ip firewall filter add chain=forward action=drop src-address=192.168.88.0/24 out-interface=ether1

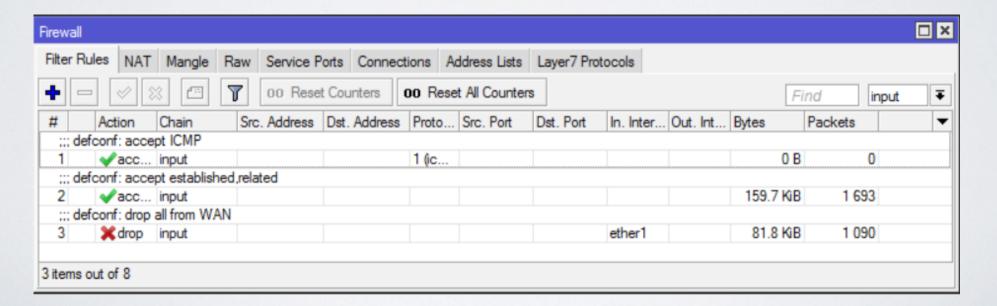
Secure input

/ip firewall filter

add chain=input action=accept protocol=icmp

add chain=input action=accept connection-state=established,related

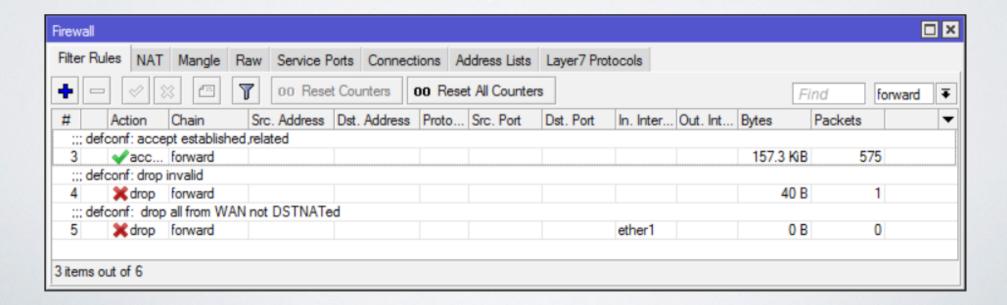
add chain=input action=drop in-interface=ether l



Secure forward

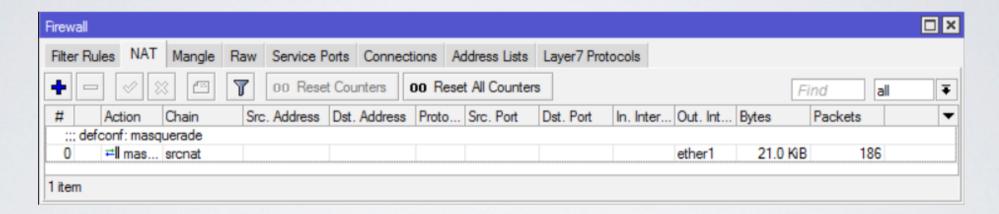
/ip firewall filter

add chain=forward action=accept connection-state=established,related add chain=forward action=drop connection-state=invalid add chain=forward action=drop connection-state=new connection-nat-state=! dstnat in-interface=ether|

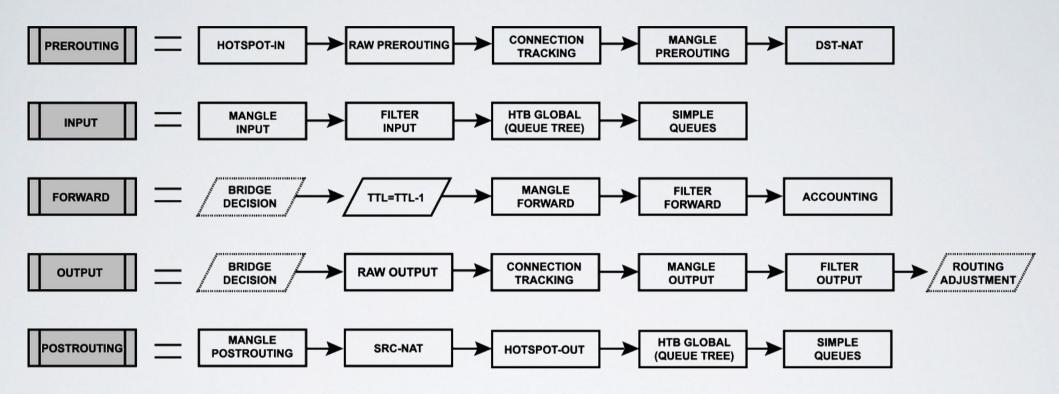


• NAT to outside (if you can, use src-nat instead of masquerade)

/ip firewall nat add chain=srcnat out-interface=ether | action=masquerade



https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:IP/Firewall/NAT#Masquerade



https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Packet_Flow_v6

NAT to LAN

/ip firewall nat add chain=dstnat in-interface=ether | protocol=tcp dst-port=22

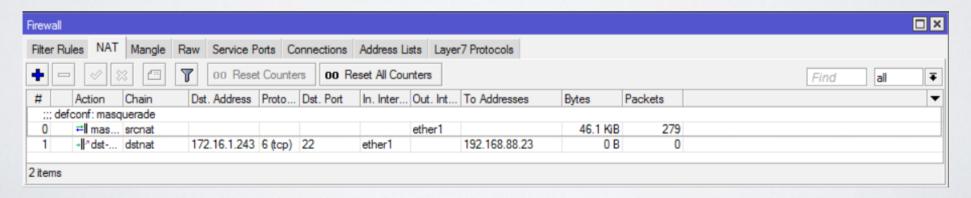
action=dst-nat dst-address=172.16.1.243 to-address=192.168.88.23

Note: In order to make port forwarding work you have to:

Have dst-nat

Have src-nat

Accept traffic in forward chain (example in previous slides)

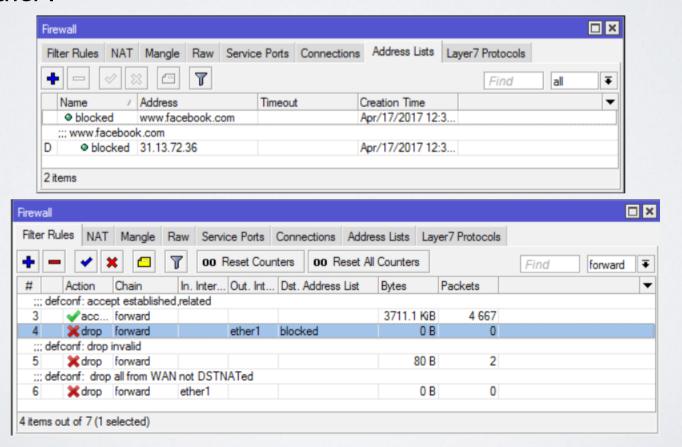


· Hairpin NAT (access local resource through public IP)

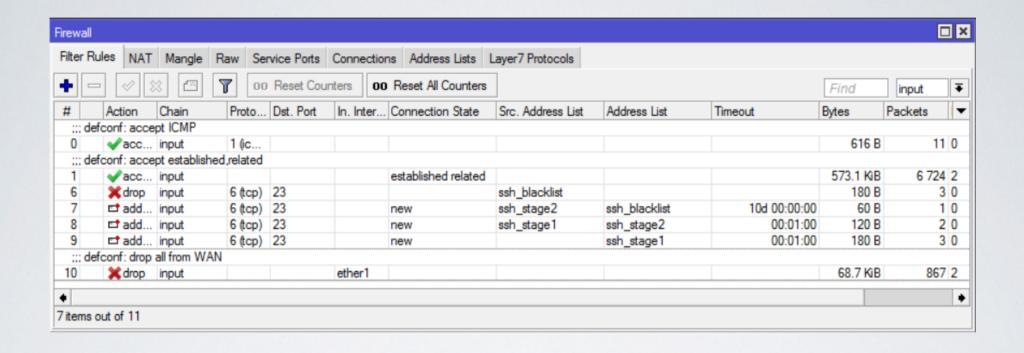
https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Hairpin_NAT

Block specific traffic

/ip firewall address-list add list=blocked address=www.facebook.com
/ip firewall filter add chain=forward action=drop dst-address-list=blocked outinterface=ether1



 Protect device against attacks, if you allow particular access /ip firewall filter add chain=input protocol=tcp dst-port=23 src-address-list=ssh blacklist action=drop add chain=input protocol=tcp dst-port=23 connection-state=new src-addresslist=ssh stage2 action=add-src-to-address-list address-list=ssh blacklist addresslist-timeout=10d add chain=input protocol=tcp dst-port=23 connection-state=new src-addresslist=ssh_stage | action=add-src-to-address-list address-list=ssh stage2 address-listtimeout= m add chain=input protocol=tcp dst-port=23 connection-state=new action=add-srcto-address-list address-list=ssh stage | address-list-timeout=|m



https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Bruteforce_login_prevention

Handle bandwidth

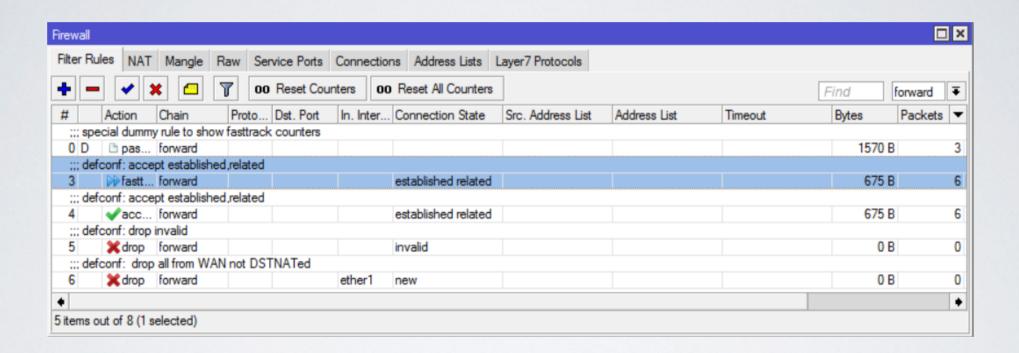
FastTrack

Remember this rule?

```
/ip firewall filter
add chain=forward action=accept connection-state=established,related
```

- Add FastTrack rule before previous one /ip firewall filter
- add chain=forward action=fasttrack-connection connectionstate=established,related

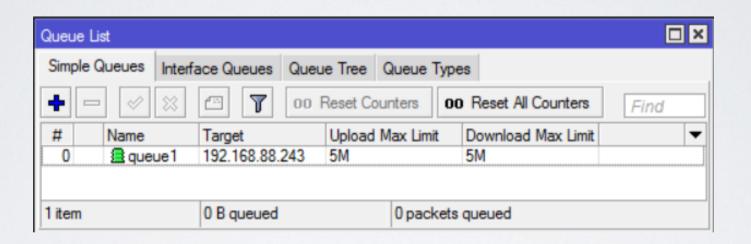
FastTrack



https://wiki.mikrotik.com/index.php?title=Manual:IP/Fasttrack&redirect=no

Queues

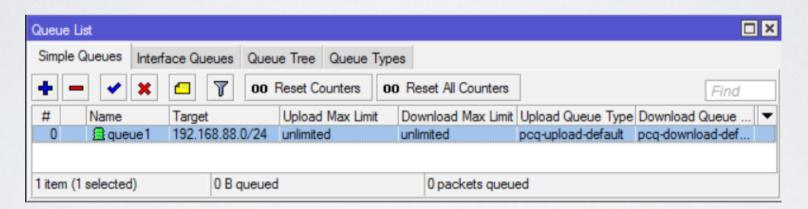
Add queues to limit traffic for specific resources
 /queue simple add name=private target=192.168.88.243 max-limit=5M/5M



Queues

Add queues to limit traffic equally (PCQ)

/queue simple add target-addresses=192.168.88.0/24 queue=pcq-upload-default/pcq-download-default



Few advices about queues

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Tips_and_Tricks_for_Beginners_and_Experience d_Users_of_RouterOS#Queues

What to do when problem appears?

Logging

Use logging for firewall

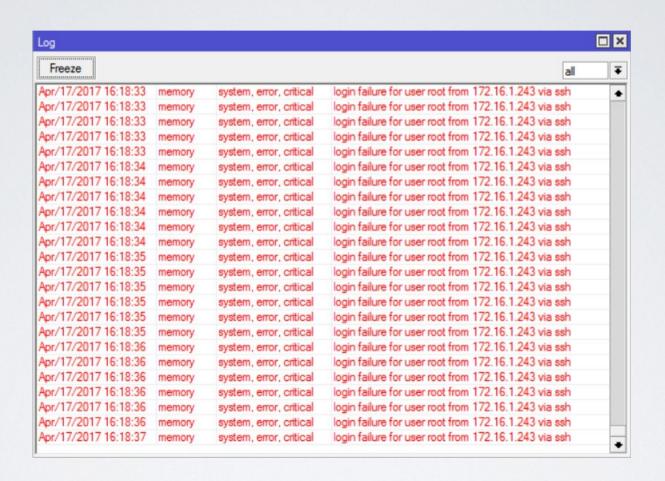
```
/ip firewall filter set [find where src-address-list=ssh_blacklist] log=yes log-
prefix=BLACKLISTED:
```

- Use logging for debug topics
 /system logging add topics=I2pt,debug action=memory
- Logging to disk or remote server

```
/system logging action set disk disk-file-name=I2tp_logs disk-file-count=5 disk-lines-per-file=1000
```

/system logging action set remote remote=192.168.88.3

Logging



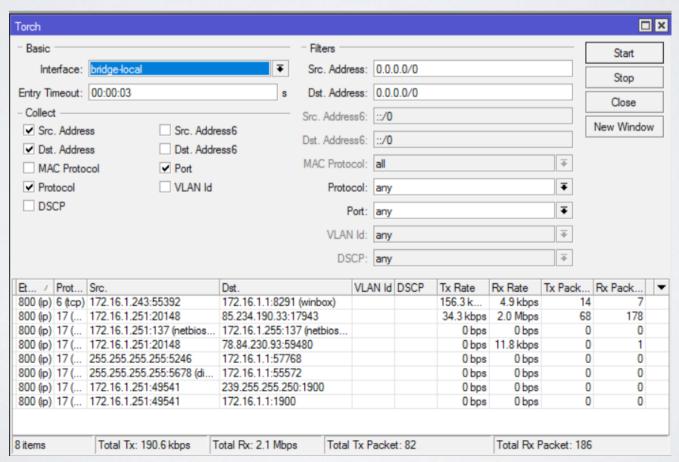
https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:System/Log

• Torch

Analyse processed traffic

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Troubleshooting_tools#Torch_.28.2Ftool_to

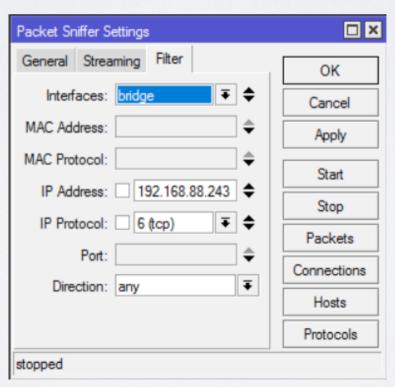
rch.29



Sniffer

Analyse processed packets

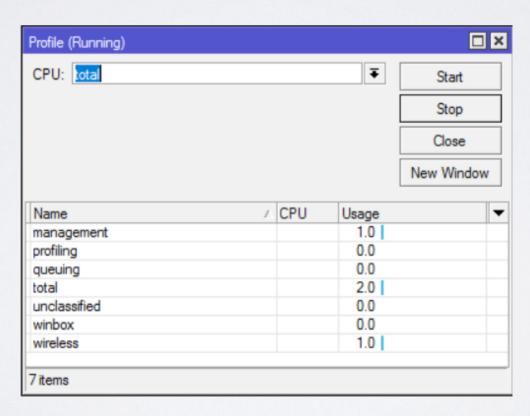
https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Troubleshooting_tools#Packet_Sniffer_.28.2F tool sniffer.29



Profiler

Find out current CPU usage

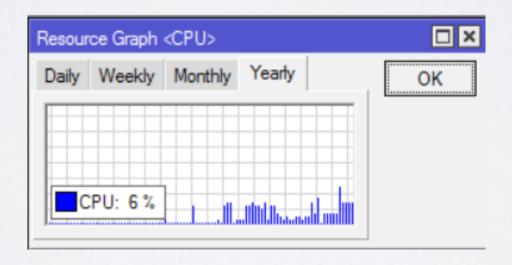
https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Tools/Profiler



Graphing

Find out information about Interfaces/Queues/Resources per interval:

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Tools/Graphing



The Dude

Powerful network monitoring tool:

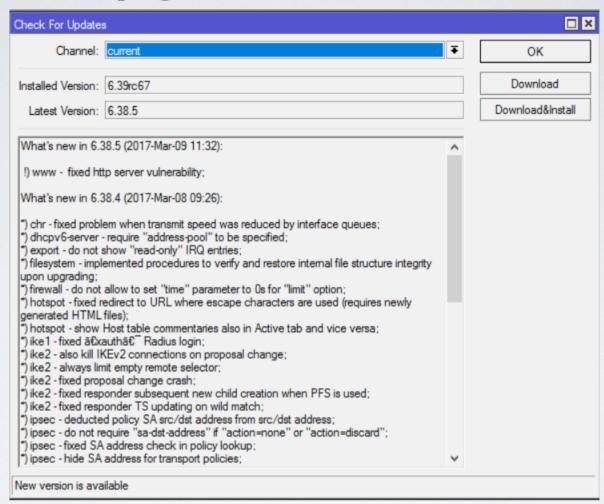
https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:The_Dude

Keep features and fixes up-to-date

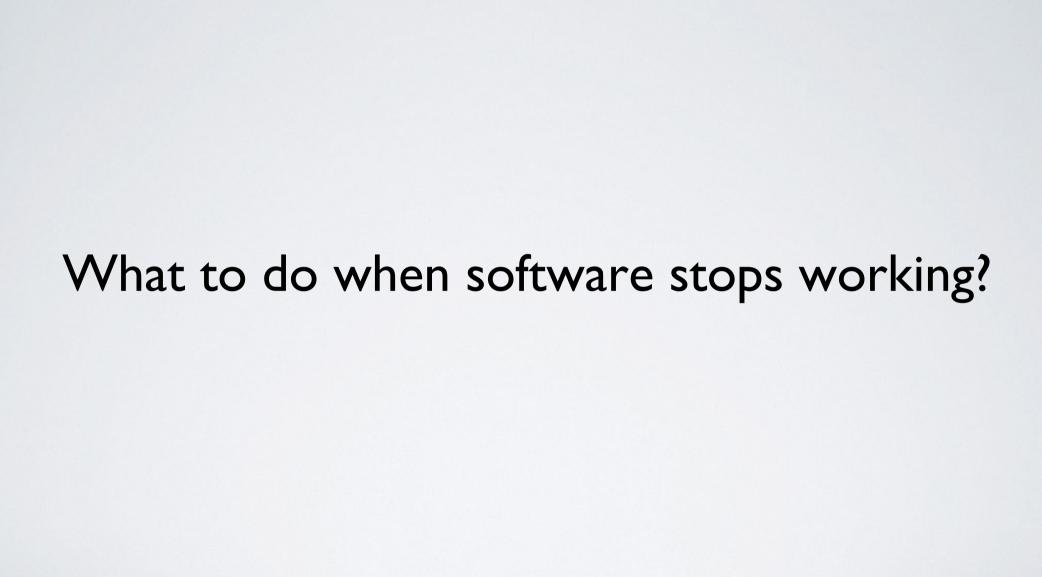
Upgrade device

- Release candidate
 - The most up-to-date version (hardly tested) with all possible features (also half-implemented) and fixes
- Current
 - Latest full release (tested on many different scenarios for long time) with all fully implemented features
- Bugfix
 - Latest full release (tested on many different scenarios for long time and admitted as trustworthy) with all safe fixes

Upgrade device



https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Upgrading_RouterOS



Resolve problems

- Backup RouterBOOT
 - 1) Power device off, press and hold the reset button
 - 2) Power device on and after I-2 seconds release the button
- Netinstall
 - 1) Test Netinstall

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Netinstall

- 2) Try to re-install any other router
- Reset device

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Reset

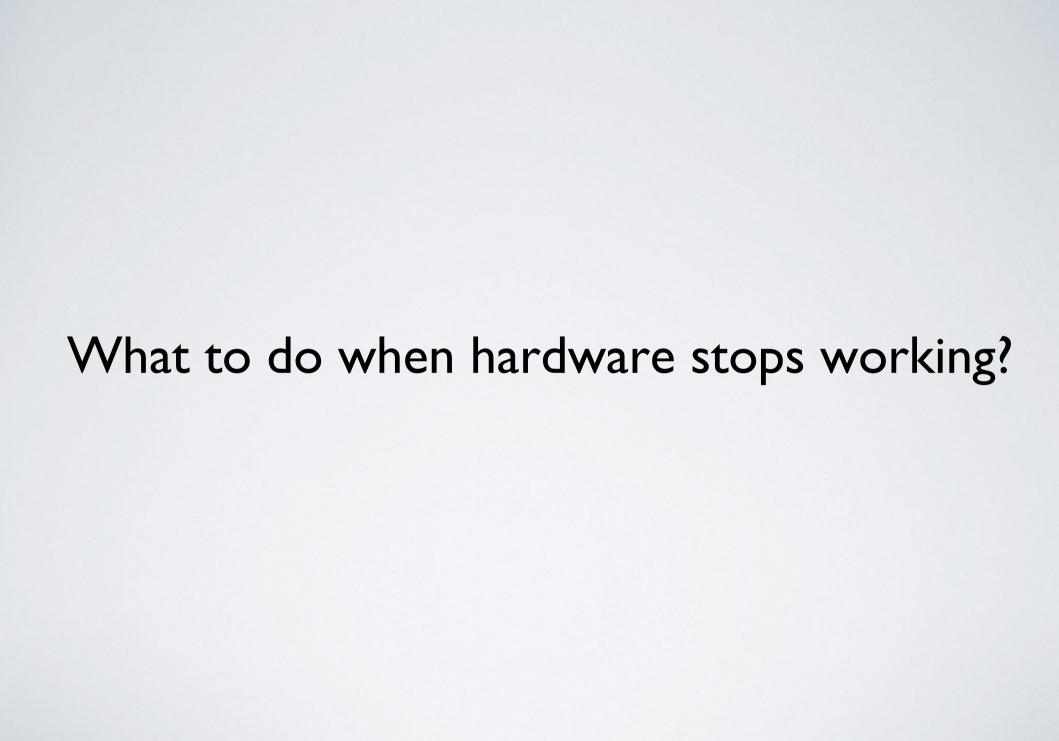
Resolve problems

- Serial port
 - 1) Shows all available information (also booting)
 - 2) Will work if problem is related to Layer2/Layer3 connectivity and/or interfaces themselves
- Exchange device
- Choose more powerful device (or multiple devices)

I can not figure it out by myself

Configuration issues

- Consultants/Distributors:
 - https://mikrotik.com/consultants
 - https://mikrotik.com/buy
- Ask for help in forum:
 - https://forum.mikrotik.com/
- Look for an answer in manual
 - https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Main_Page



Hardware issues

- Replace involved accessories
 - Power adapter
 - PoE
 - Cables
 - Interfaces (SFP modules, wireless cards, etc.)
 - Power source

Support

Software issues

Configuration is not working properly

Logs and supout file

https://wiki.mikrotik.com/wiki/Manual:Support_Output_File

- Out of memory
 - I) Upgrade device (mandatory)
 - 2) Reboot device and generate supout file (normal situation)
 - 3) When RAM is almost full generate another supout file (problematic situation)

Software issues

- Device freeze
 - I) Upgrade device (mandatory)
 - 2) Connect serial console and monitor device
 - 3) Generate supout file (problematic situation)
 - 4) Copy serial output to text file
- Any other kind of issue (for example reboot)
 - I) Upgrade device (mandatory)
 - 2) Reproduce problem or wait for it to appear
 - 3) Generate supout file (problematic situation)

Support

- Briefly explain what has happened
- When it happens
- What did you do to make it happen
- Send all files (mentioned in previous slides depending on problem)
- Do everything what is asked, if it is possible
- Make notes and document results (even if problem persists)
- Make new files after configuration changes
- Reply within same ticket and provide new information

Enjoy the MUM!