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Subject: Using a layered filesystem as private dir?  
Posted by [Rick van Rein](#) on Thu, 05 Jan 2012 11:32:58 GMT  
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Hello,

I've just started using OpenVZ, and it feels more natural than the alternatives I've seen -- my compliments!

I can get a host running from a ZFS volume like /tank/vzdemo, which then also gets shown at /var/lib/vz/vz-\$VEID. But what I really want to do is use a layered FS (like aufs) as the private directory for the container. But trying to do that leads to an error:

```
bash# mount -t aufs -o br:/tank/vzdemo=rw:/tank/squeeze=ro none /mnt
bash# grep VE_ /etc/vz/conf/777.conf
VE_PRIVATE=/mnt
bash# vzctl create 777
Private area already exists in /mnt
Creation of container private area failed
```

What is this trying to say? Is there a way to do what I am trying to do? Did I understand well that the private area is a directory, not a device?

Thanks,  
-Rick

P.S. To capture any "why" questions :- I am trying to share as many resources as possible. Containers beat Xen/KVM/VMware in that respect, and when I can share the base OS and only have a thin layer on top, it should mean that even the buffer cache is shared between containers. It also means that upgrades can be reduced to a minimum of repetition.

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