
Subject: Unable to open pty: No such file or directory

Posted by [JimL](#) on Sun, 22 Jan 2012 10:43:54 GMT

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I've looked at a dozen or more responses to this error but I can't find a solution that works for me.

I upgraded my system from Centos 5.6 to 6.2. Now the centos 4.7 VEs that ran on 5.6 won't run and give the unable to open pty messages.

`vzctl exec 225 ls /dev/pts` returns zero files.

`vzctl exec 225 /sbin/MAKEDEV pty` doesn't complain but doesn't create anything in `/dev/pts`

I also tried `vzctl exec 225 /sbin/MAKEDEV tty`

When I do an `vzctl exec 225 ls -l /dev`, I see

```
crw-rw-rw- 1 root tty 2, 176 Jan 22 04:56 ptya0
crw-rw-rw- 1 root tty 2, 177 Jan 22 04:56 ptya1
crw-rw-rw- 1 root tty 2, 178 Jan 22 04:56 ptya2
crw-rw-rw- 1 root tty 2, 179 Jan 22 04:56 ptya3
crw-rw-rw- 1 root tty 2, 180 Jan 22 04:56 ptya4
crw-rw-rw- 1 root tty 2, 181 Jan 22 04:56 ptya5
crw-rw-rw- 1 root tty 2, 182 Jan 22 04:56 ptya6
(not a complete list)
```

I also have a VE running Ubuntu 8.04 that starts and runs fine. Comparing the dev list of the two VE's doesn't show any differences with respect to the ptys or `/dev/pts`.

I also have another almost identical Centos 4 VE, 226 and it exhibits the same behavior.

`uname -a`

```
Linux centos 2.6.32-042stab044.17 #1 SMP Fri Jan 13 12:53:58 MSK 2012 x86_64 x86_64
x86_64 GNU/Linux
```

One thing to note is that this system was running a 32 bit kernel when the VEs were generated and now I'm running a 64 bit kernel.

I did a fresh install of a minimal centos 4 VE and it works fine.

Is there any way I can make these VEs work?

Thanks,
Jim.

Subject: Re: Unable to open pty: No such file or directory

Posted by [JimL](#) on Tue, 31 Jan 2012 01:37:40 GMT

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Apparently this wasn't limited to Centos 6. Since the Centos 6 kernel crashes, I booted up my old Centos 5 partition, migrated the container to a Fedora 14 system and it had the same problem. Now it worked OK still on Centos 5 but I want to get that system upgraded to Centos 6 but since the OpenVZ kernel won't run, I had to get my important containers working somewhere else.

It didn't work on Fedora either. I started poking around and found that the following worked for me. YMMV

In addition to the MAKEDEV entries I had to perform the following steps from the host:

```
vzctl exec 225 bash
rm /dev/null
mknod /dev/null c 1 3
chmod 666 /dev/null
mknod /dev/ptmx c 5 2
chmod 666 /dev/null
```

I did restart sshd and all is well. I haven't shut it down yet to see if it comes up OK, but that got it running again. I can

```
vzctl enter 225
```

and

```
ssh 192.168.2.25
```

So I'm happy. well maybe that's a stretch.

Jim.

Note: I had to create the ptys via MAKEDEV too.
