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Subject: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [beyondx](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 16:54:18 GMT  
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Hi everyone,

I've got a weird problem with the NULL-Device. In fact I just virtualized a fedora3 machine, which worked quite well. Access via SSH etc. is possible. However there's one problem with the dev/null-device. The Amavis-milter accesses the /dev/null-device combined with etc/profile, which leads to an error --> /dev/null: permission denied.

How can I solve this problem?

I already deleted dev/null and recreated it...as I already said access via ssh is possible and anything else works...except for the point mentioned above.

Any help is appreciated

Thanks,

Norman

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [maratrus](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 17:54:06 GMT  
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Hi,

1. What kernel do you use?  
2. Please look at this page may be it relates with your problem  
[http://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=msg&goto=9123&&ampr;srch=%2Fdev%2Fnull+permission#msg\\_9123](http://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=msg&goto=9123&&ampr;srch=%2Fdev%2Fnull+permission#msg_9123)  
Thank You!

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [beyondx](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 21:40:50 GMT  
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Thanks for your reply!

I'm using the following kernel on a fedora-core6 machine:

2.6.18-8.1.15.el5.028stab047.1 #1 SMP Tue Oct 23 15:25:33 MSD 2007 i686 i686 i386  
GNU/Linux.

I will have a look at your recommended link.

Regards

Norman

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [beyondx](#) on Fri, 04 Jan 2008 12:15:08 GMT  
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Hi everyone,

unfortunately I'm still having a weird problem with the dev/null-device.

As i already mentioned, I virtualized a fedora-core 3 machine running stuff like amavisd-new, spamassassin etc.

After recreating all devices and other steps mentioned in the HowTo:P2V, everything seems to work fine...the only exception I could figure out is amavisd-new.

Example:

```
[root@fedora3p2v /]# /etc/init.d/amavisd-new status
amavis-milter is stopped
amavisd is stopped
amavisd-new is stopped
```

```
[root@fedora3p2v /]# /etc/init.d/amavisd-new start
Starting amavis-milter: /etc/profile: line 27: /dev/null: Permission denied
/etc/profile.d/colorls.sh: line 3: /dev/null: Permission denied
/etc/profile.d/colorls.sh: line 4: /dev/null: Permission denied
/etc/profile.d/colorls.sh: line 17: /dev/null: Permission denied
/etc/profile.d/colorls.sh: line 18: /dev/null: Permission denied
/etc/profile.d/colorls.sh: line 19: /dev/null: Permission denied
/etc/profile.d/colorls.sh: line 20: /dev/null: Permission denied
/etc/profile.d/vim.sh: line 3: /dev/null: Permission denied
-bash: /dev/null: Permission denied
```

[ OK ]

Starting amavisd-new: [ OK ]

Does anyone know how to fix that problem? I Already upgraded to the latest  
openvzkernel:2.6.18-53.el5.028stab051.1

Greetings

Norman

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [maratrus](#) on Fri, 04 Jan 2008 20:24:56 GMT  
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Hi,

can you please attach the strace output of /etc/init.d/amavisd-new start and also ls -l of  
/vz/private/<ID>/dev and /vz/root/<ID>/dev?

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [vaverin](#) on Sat, 05 Jan 2008 08:38:09 GMT  
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Could you please show 'ls -al /dev/null' output?

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [beyondx](#) on Sun, 06 Jan 2008 17:06:05 GMT  
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Hi everyone,

thanks for your participation in this weird problem. Luckily I could already figure it out myself by having a closer look at the bug report 398.

There you find the following line to set up the rights for the devices such as dev/null

```
vzctl set <id> --devices c:5:2:rw --save
```

This setup helped and actually solved the problem.

Before using this command I followed the Howto:"physical to VE", which suggests:

```
rm -f /vz/private/123/dev/null (if null exists)
mknod /vz/private/123/dev/null c 1 3
```

This command set the permissions crw-r--r--, which lead to the conflict.

Maybe someone could add this to the wiki.

Greetings,

Norman

PS: Sorry, if this solutions was more than obvious to some of you...I'm still a linux noob :-/

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [beyondx](#) on Sun, 06 Jan 2008 17:07:12 GMT  
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Hi everyone,

thanks for your participation in this weird problem. Luckily I could already figure it out myself by having a closer look at the bug report 398.

There you find the following line to set up the rights for the devices such as dev/null

```
vzctl set <id> --devices c:5:2:rw --save
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This setup helped and actually solved the problem.

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Maybe someone could add this to the wiki.

Greetings,

Norman

PS: Sorry, if this solutions was more than obvious to some of you...I'm still a linux noob :-/

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [maratrus](#) on Tue, 08 Jan 2008 11:00:27 GMT  
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Hi,

1. Can you please start your VPS and show the output 'cat /proc/mounts' from HN?
2. And please output of 'umask' from HN?

Thank You!

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [vaverin](#) on Wed, 09 Jan 2008 06:57:02 GMT  
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I would note that 'vzctl set --devices c:5:2:rw' command is not required.  
First, it is not /dev/null device, it is /dev/ptmx  
Second, this device file should have 0666 access permissions too. Obviously you have created it by mknod command, and write permission for user and group was restricted by umask.

Marat has corrected our wiki page, now it recommend to execute mknod with --mode option.

Thank you,  
Vasily Averin

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [iroen](#) on Thu, 17 May 2012 12:51:49 GMT  
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I had this problem today and this link (I can't use links so sorry, but I wont show you the source ...) solution helped. By default there was "crw" only on the /dev/null and the problem (in this case the starting of allegrograph server) went away after doing chmod 0666 on the file.

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Subject: Re: /dev/null permission denied  
Posted by [narcisgarcia](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 11:54:55 GMT  
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I'm running Debian 7 containers in Debian 7 HN host (Linux 2.6.32-openvz-042stab084.14-amd64), and found this problem, but not immediately to container's boot: after several hours (or days).

This command inside the container solves me the problem for some minutes:

```
chmod a+rw /dev/null
```

But after those minutes the null device comes back to bad permissions crw-r--r--

Now I've tried this at the hardware node:

```
ContainerID=777
```

```
vzctl set $ContainerID --devnodes null:rw --save
```

```
vzctl stop $ContainerID
```

```
vzctl start $ContainerID
```

But after some time, trying to use bash-completion (pressing TAB on a terminal), I see the same problem:

```
Quote:-bash: /dev/null: Permission denied
```

```
bash: _upvars: `-a2': invalid number specifier
```

I'M SORRY;

At this moment I think that a customized script re-created the "file" /dev/null when doesn't find it with "test -f":

```
rm -f $MyFile
```

```
echo "MyData" > $MyFile
```

BUT the strange OpenVZ behaviour is that this operation seems to spread to all other containers: one container re-creates /dev/null and all others' have this device modified.

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