

---

Subject: /dev/mem: Permission denied

Posted by [Dean Gostisa](#) on Mon, 25 Feb 2008 22:31:34 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi,

I have problem, i have created openvz Gentoo Server, and create Debian VM on it, but when installing some packages like this i get:

```
apt-get --reinstall install xfonts-base
```

```
Reading package lists... Done
```

```
Building dependency tree... Done
```

```
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 reinstalled, 0 to remove and 0 not upgraded.
```

```
Need to get 0B/6131kB of archives.
```

```
After unpacking 0B of additional disk space will be used.
```

```
Do you want to continue [Y/n]? y
```

```
(Reading database ... 20054 files and directories currently installed.)
```

```
Preparing to replace xfonts-base 1:1.0.0-4 (using
```

```
.../xfonts-base_1%3a1.0.0-4_all.deb) ...
```

```
/dev/mem: Permission denied
```

```
Unpacking replacement xfonts-base ...
```

```
/dev/mem: Permission denied
```

```
warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
```

```
warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
```

```
Setting up xfonts-base (1.0.0-4) ...
```

```
/dev/mem: Permission denied
```

```
warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
```

```
warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
```

Do you have any idea why?

Thank you for your help,

Dean

--

Everybody have fun!!!

---

---

Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Permission denied

Posted by [Pavel Emelianov](#) on Tue, 26 Feb 2008 10:53:42 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Dean Gostisa wrote:

> Hi,

>

> I have problem, i have created openvz Gentoo Server, and create Debian VM on

> it, but when installing some packages like this i get:

> apt-get --reinstall install xfonts-base

```
> Reading package lists... Done
> Building dependency tree... Done
> 0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 reinstalled, 0 to remove and 0 not
> upgraded.
> Need to get 0B/6131kB of archives.
> After unpacking 0B of additional disk space will be used.
> Do you want to continue [Y/n]? y
> (Reading database ... 20054 files and directories currently installed.)
> Preparing to replace xfonts-base 1:1.0.0-4 (using
> .../xfonts-base_1%3a1.0.0-4_all.deb) ...
> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> Unpacking replacement xfonts-base ...
> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> Setting up xfonts-base (1.0.0-4) ...
> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
>
> Do you have any idea why?
```

Yup - you should give the device permissions to /dev/mem for this VE.  
Read man on vzctl for --devnodes option.

```
> Thank you for your help,
> Dean
>
>
>
> -----
>
>
```

---

---

Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Permission denied  
Posted by [Dean Gostisa](#) on Tue, 26 Feb 2008 14:33:53 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

```
pic /proc/vz/devperms
.lf 1 /proc/vz/devperms
Version: 2.7
    0 b 016 *.*
    0 c 006 *.*
    104 c 006 1:2
```

I use Gentoo stable OpenVZ: 2.6.18-028stab053  
Should i use newer ?

2008/2/26, Pavel Emelyanov <xemul@openvz.org>:

```
>
> Dean Gostisa wrote:
> > Um problem remains:
> > I set:
> > vzctl set 104 --devnodes mem:rw --save
> > And restarted VE, then i checked dev nodes in VE:
> > Doktor:~# ls -l /dev/mem
> > crwxrwxrwx 1 root news 1, 1 Apr 24 2007 /dev/mem
>
>
> OK, what's in the /proc/vz/devperms file after ve restart?
> And what's the kernel version you use?
>
>
> > But when i try to install still get same problem:
> > apt-get --reinstall install xfonts-base
> > Reading package lists... Done
> > Building dependency tree... Done
> > 0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 reinstalled, 0 to remove and 0 not
> > upgraded.
> > Need to get 0B/6131kB of archives.
> > After unpacking 0B of additional disk space will be used.
> > Do you want to continue [Y/n]? Y
> > (Reading database ... 20054 files and directories currently installed.)
> > Preparing to replace xfonts-base 1:1.0.0-4 (using
> > .../xfonts-base_1%3a1.0.0-4_all.deb) ...
> > /dev/mem: Permission denied
> > Unpacking replacement xfonts-base ...
> > /dev/mem: Permission denied
> > warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> > warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> > Setting up xfonts-base (1.0.0-4) ...
> > /dev/mem: Permission denied
> > warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> > warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >
> > Any other idea?
> >
> >
> >
> > 2008/2/26, Pavel Emelyanov <xemul@openvz.org>:
> >> Dean Gostisa wrote:
> >>> Hi,
> >>>
> >>> I have problem, i have created openvz Gentoo Server, and create Debian
> >> VM on
```

```
> >>> it, but when installing some packages like this i get:
> >>> apt-get --reinstall install xfonts-base
> >>> Reading package lists... Done
> >>> Building dependency tree... Done
> >>> 0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 reinstalled, 0 to remove and 0 not
> >>> upgraded.
> >>> Need to get 0B/6131kB of archives.
> >>> After unpacking 0B of additional disk space will be used.
> >>> Do you want to continue [Y/n]? y
> >>> (Reading database ... 20054 files and directories currently
> installed.)
> >>> Preparing to replace xfonts-base 1:1.0.0-4 (using
> >>> .../xfonts-base_1%3a1.0.0-4_all.deb) ...
> >>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>> Unpacking replacement xfonts-base ...
> >>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>> Setting up xfonts-base (1.0.0-4) ...
> >>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>>
> >>> Do you have any idea why?
> >>
> >> Yup - you should give the device permissions to /dev/mem for this VE.
> >> Read man on vzctl for --devnodes option.
> >>
> >>
> >>> Thank you for your help,
> >>> Dean
> >>>
> >>>
> >>>
> >>>
> -----
> >>>
--
Everybody have fun!!!
```

---

Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Permission denied  
Posted by [Dean Gostisa](#) on Tue, 26 Feb 2008 16:06:12 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Um i used command:  
vzctl set 104 --devices c:1:1:rw --save  
Restarted VE

Output:

```
pic /proc/vz/devperms
.lf 1 /proc/vz/devperms
Version: 2.7
    0 b 016 *.*
    0 c 006 *.*
104 c 006 1:2
104 c 006 1:1
```

And system still show me Promission denied on /dev/mem in VE 104. Any idea?

Thank you  
Dean

2008/2/26, Pavel Emelyanov <xemul@openvz.org>:

```
>
> Dean Gostisa wrote:
> > pic /proc/vz/devperms
> > .lf 1 /proc/vz/devperms
> > Version: 2.7
> >     0 b 016 *.*
> >     0 c 006 *.*
> >     104 c 006 1:2
>
>
> Here it is - vzctl added c 1:2 device, not the c 1:1.
> Try the
>
>     vzctl set 104 --devices c:1:1:rw --save
>
> command instead.
>
>
> > I use Gentoo stable OpenVZ: 2.6.18-028stab053
> > Should i use newer ?
>
>
> No. Looks like it's the vzctl fault. Try the above command,
> and if succeed, then upgrade the vzctl if required. If the
> --devnodes still doesn't work - fill the BUG in our bugzilla :)
>
> Thanks,
>
> Pavel
>
>
> > 2008/2/26, Pavel Emelyanov <xemul@openvz.org>:
```

```

> >> Dean Gostisa wrote:
> >>> Um problem remains:
> >>> I set:
> >>> vzctl set 104 --devnodes mem:rw --save
> >>> And restarted VE, then i checked dev nodes in VE:
> >>> Doktor:/# ls -l /dev/mem
> >>> crwxrwxrwx 1 root news 1, 1 Apr 24 2007 /dev/mem
> >>
> >> OK, what's in the /proc/vz/devperms file after ve restart?
> >> And what's the kernel version you use?
> >>
> >>
> >>> But when i try to install still get same problem:
> >>> apt-get --reinstall install xfonts-base
> >>> Reading package lists... Done
> >>> Building dependency tree... Done
> >>> 0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 reinstalled, 0 to remove and 0 not
> >>> upgraded.
> >>> Need to get 0B/6131kB of archives.
> >>> After unpacking 0B of additional disk space will be used.
> >>> Do you want to continue [Y/n]? Y
> >>> (Reading database ... 20054 files and directories currently
> installed.)
> >>> Preparing to replace xfonts-base 1:1.0.0-4 (using
> >>> .../xfonts-base_1%3a1.0.0-4_all.deb) ...
> >>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>> Unpacking replacement xfonts-base ...
> >>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>> Setting up xfonts-base (1.0.0-4) ...
> >>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> >>>
> >>> Any other idea?
> >>>
> >>>
> >>>
> >>> 2008/2/26, Pavel Emelyanov <xemul@openvz.org>:
> >>>> Dean Gostisa wrote:
> >>>>> Hi,
> >>>>>
> >>>>> I have problem, i have created openvz Gentoo Server, and create
> >>>>> Debian
> >>>>> VM on
> >>>>> it, but when installing some packages like this i get:
> >>>>> apt-get --reinstall install xfonts-base

```

```
> >>>> Reading package lists... Done
> >>>> Building dependency tree... Done
> >>>> 0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 reinstalled, 0 to remove and 0 not
> >>>> upgraded.
> >>>> Need to get 0B/6131kB of archives.
> >>>> After unpacking 0B of additional disk space will be used.
> >>>> Do you want to continue [Y/n]? y
> >>>> (Reading database ... 20054 files and directories currently
> >> installed.)
> >>>> Preparing to replace xfonts-base 1:1.0.0-4 (using
> >>>> ../xfonts-base_1%3a1.0.0-4_all.deb) ...
> >>>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>>> Unpacking replacement xfonts-base ...
> >>>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a
> > directory
> >>>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a
> > directory
> >>>> Setting up xfonts-base (1.0.0-4) ...
> >>>> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> >>>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a
> > directory
> >>>> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a
> > directory
> >>>>
> >>>> Do you have any idea why?
> >>>> Yup - you should give the device permissions to /dev/mem for this VE.
> >>>> Read man on vzctl for --devnodes option.
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>> Thank you for your help,
> >>>> Dean
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>
> -----
--
Everybody have fun!!!
```

---

---

Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Permission denied  
Posted by [kir](#) on Tue, 26 Feb 2008 16:07:31 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I have debugged this case a bit and found out that

(1) The `/dev/mem: Permission denied` message comes from `/usr/sbin/laptop-detect` script which is being executed a few times during packages installation. Well, in fact the message comes from `dmidecode` which `laptop-detect` calls... Anyway, `laptop-detect` decides that we are not on a laptop (which is correct for a container I think) and exits with the code of 1 (correct in non-laptop case). So it's all fine, except for the scary error message which you should ignore (and please do NOT give a container an access to `/dev/mem` -- BAD BAD idea). If you want the message to disappear, do this (as root):

```
rm /usr/sbin/laptop-detect
ln -s /bin/false /usr/sbin/laptop-detect
```

That way "laptop-detect" is linked to "false" and will always exit with "1" (meaning "we are not on a laptop").

(2) The "warning: `/usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc` does not exist or is not a directory" message comes from `xfonts-base` post-installation script (`/var/lib/dpkg/info/xfonts-base.postinst`) which (aside from tons of other things) calls these two scripts:

```
update-fonts-dir --x11r7-layout misc;update-fonts-alias misc
```

Each script tries to check if a directory named `/usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc` -- it does not, and it prints a warning.

I am not sure why there is no `/usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc` directory but `xfonts-base` assumes it's here -- for that, you'd better ask Debian people.

I have also tried to find which packages create the above directory (or have files in it) and found out nobody's using it. Instead, a number of packages put some files to `/usr/share/fonts/X11/misc`.

Executive summary:

1. `/dev/mem` can and should be ignored.
2. warning about directory is not an OpenVZ issue.

Hope that helps.

Kir.

Dean Gostisa wrote:

```
> Hi,
>
```



```
> I have problem, i have created openvz Gentoo Server, and create Debian
> VM on it, but when installing some packages like this i get:
> apt-get --reinstall install xfonts-base
> Reading package lists... Done
> Building dependency tree... Done
> 0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 1 reinstalled, 0 to remove and 0 not
> upgraded.
> Need to get 0B/6131kB of archives.
> After unpacking 0B of additional disk space will be used.
> Do you want to continue [Y/n]? y
> (Reading database ... 20054 files and directories currently installed.)
> Preparing to replace xfonts-base 1:1.0.0-4 (using
> .../xfonts-base_1%3a1.0.0-4_all.deb) ...
> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> Unpacking replacement xfonts-base ...
> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> Setting up xfonts-base (1.0.0-4) ...
> /dev/mem: Permission denied
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
> warning: /usr/lib/X11/fonts/misc does not exist or is not a directory
>
> Do you have any idea why?
>
> Thank you for your help,
> Dean
>
> --
> Everybody have fun!!!
> -----
>
```

---

---

Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Permission denied  
Posted by [Josip Rodin](#) on Tue, 26 Feb 2008 19:10:39 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Tue, Feb 26, 2008 at 07:07:31PM +0300, Kir Kolyshkin wrote:

```
> (1) The "/dev/mem: Permission denied" message comes from
> /usr/sbin/laptop-detect script which is being executed a few times
> during packages installation. Well, in fact the message comes from
> dmidecode which laptop-detect calls...
>
> If you want the message to disappear, do this (as root):
>
> rm /usr/sbin/laptop-detect
> ln -s /bin/false /usr/sbin/laptop-detect
```

I'd say they should just remove the laptop-detect and dmidecode packages, because they can serve no particular practical purpose inside a VE anyway...?

(Doing the above without dpkg-divert will last only until the next package upgrade, in any case.)

--

2. That which causes joy or happiness.

---