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Subject: /dev/mem: Operation not permitted  
Posted by [bbhenry](#) on Thu, 02 Apr 2009 21:58:40 GMT  
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I have an application trying to access the /dev/mem and get the following error:  
/dev/mem: Operation not permitted

I have already grand access of the /dev/mem to my container with both of the method I found on the wiki, even though I can see the device being available in my container , but I still get the permission denied error message. Here are the 2 methods I tried

```
vzctl set 2005 --devnodes mem:rw --save
```

or  
2005 device config file with the following setting:  
DEVICES="c:1:1:rw"

Both of them was able to create a /dev/mem inside my container, but I just can't get permission to access it. By the way, I am able to access the /dev/mem from HN using:  
cat /dev/mem

but when I do the same thing in container, I get operation not permitted

I am using Centos 5.2 on HN, with OpenVZ kernel 2.6.18-92.1.18.el5.028stab060.2

I also have a question about mknod, what's the difference when /dev is created from mknod and device being passed by vzctl set 2005 --devnodes?

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Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Operation not permitted  
Posted by [maratrus](#) on Fri, 03 Apr 2009 06:05:19 GMT  
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Hi,

try the following commands

```
# vzctl set $VEID --devnodes mem:rw --save  
# vzctl set $VEID --capability sys_rawio --save
```

Quote:

I also have a question about mknod, what's the difference when /dev is created from mknod and device being passed by vzctl set 2005 --devnodes?

mknod simply creates device file inside VE but vzctl says to kernel that the particular VE is going to have appropriate permissions.

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Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Operation not permitted  
Posted by [bbhenry](#) on Fri, 03 Apr 2009 16:30:29 GMT  
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Hi,

thank you for helping out, but here is what I get when I try to do the second command

```
vzctl set 2005 --capability sys_rawio --save
```

```
Invalid syntaxes in sys_rawio: capname:on|off  
Bad parameter for --capability: sys_rawio
```

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Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Operation not permitted  
Posted by [maratrus](#) on Fri, 03 Apr 2009 16:36:23 GMT  
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It was a misprint

```
# vzctl set 2005 --capability sys_rawio:on --save
```

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Subject: Re: /dev/mem: Operation not permitted SOLVED  
Posted by [bbhenry](#) on Fri, 03 Apr 2009 17:13:53 GMT  
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Thank you , maratrus

It fixed my issue.

Just have one more question about the mknod:

Are the device that is created by mknod just pseudo device? meaning they don't have actual function but just to be there to fake the OS?

And is there a place explaining when to use mknod?

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