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Subject: Best way to access hardware RAID arrays from inside a VE? Bind mount?  
Posted by [batfastad](#) on Wed, 07 Oct 2009 15:20:56 GMT

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Hi everyone

I'm planning to consolidate a couple of servers into a new OpenVZ box.

The host will have a 3Ware 9690SA-8i RAID card taken from our current shared files box.  
One of the VEs will be running Samba/Netatalk to create shares from a RAID array connected to the host.

What's the best way of doing this from a performance/stability point of view?

1) I was reading through the Bind Mounts ([http://wiki.openvz.org/Bind\\_mounts](http://wiki.openvz.org/Bind_mounts)) article in the wiki.  
Is that the best way?

2) Are there any "gotchas" I should look out for when using Samba/Netatalk within a VE and frequently accessing storage connected to the host?

3) The 2nd VE will be a Zimbra mail installation and that will also need access to a RAID 1 array connected to the host's RAID card.

Zimbra runs a big MySQL instance and it gets complex to change storage paths within Zimbra.  
Can I/should I store a whole VE on the RAID 1 array partition rather than on the internal boot drive?

Or would that cause performance problems?

Hope that all makes sense, thanks in advance  
Cheers, B

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Subject: Re: Best way to access hardware RAID arrays from inside a VE? Bind mount?

Posted by [kir](#) on Thu, 08 Oct 2009 09:00:29 GMT

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Just have that RAID mounted to /vz, that's it. Alternatively, set VE\_ROOT/VE\_PRIVATE of a particular container to where you RAID is mounted. There is no I/O performance degradation in OpenVZ

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Subject: Re: Best way to access hardware RAID arrays from inside a VE? Bind mount?

Posted by [batfastad](#) on Thu, 08 Oct 2009 09:12:38 GMT

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Great news, thanks for the reply.

Just want to get this absolutely straight:

So you mean mount it as /vz on the host using bind mounts, correct?

Mount the array as /vz or /vz/raid?

How does the array appear within the container?

I want one container stored on the internal boot drive but able to share out (Samba) directories from large 2TB RAID 6 array.

Probably best to bind mount this one, correct?

Then for the other container it would be great to have the whole VE system/structure stored on a different RAID array (1TB RAID 1).

For this one I want to change the VE\_PRIVATE of that container to the mount point of the array?

Is that right or am I totally confused

Cheers, B

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