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Subject: \*SOLVED\* Clone VPS  
Posted by [pbundschuh](#) on Tue, 25 Jul 2006 11:51:22 GMT  
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Hello,

is it possible, to make an exact copy (=clone) of an vps on the same machine?

regards,

Philipp

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS  
Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Tue, 25 Jul 2006 12:03:10 GMT  
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Just copy your VPS directory (/vz/private/200) to the new directory (/vz/private/201).  
Copy config files (200.conf to 201.conf) and edit the last one in a decent way.

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS  
Posted by [zenny](#) on Mon, 20 Nov 2006 08:11:16 GMT  
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Thanks Vasily for the invaluable tip.

However I cannot copy the /vz/priate/200 to /vz/private/201 using the cp command. Of course, I did mkdir /vz/root/201 /vz/private/201.

Is there any specific way to do it? Please elaborate on what should be the specific command to clone VPSes in the same HN (hardware node).

Thanks in advance.

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS  
Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Mon, 20 Nov 2006 08:59:09 GMT  
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Hello,

Quote:However I cannot copy the /vz/priate/200 to /vz/private/201 using the cp command. Of course, I did mkdir /vz/private/201.

Why can't you?

Quote:Is there any specific way to do it? Please elaborate on what should be the specific command to clone VPSes in the same server.

In current distribution of OpenVZ there is no specific tool. I guess this is so 'cause of it's very easy to do it by hand:

```
# vzctl stop 101
Stopping VE ...
VE was stopped
VE is unmounted
# cp -r /vz/private/101 /vz/private/202
# cp /etc/vz/conf/101.conf /etc/vz/conf/202.conf
# vzctl start 202
Starting VE ...
Initializing quota ...
VE is mounted
Setting CPU units: 1000
VE start in progress...
```

This can easily be designed as a shell script.

HTH,  
Vasily.

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS

Posted by [zenny](#) on Mon, 20 Nov 2006 09:23:12 GMT

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I did exactly as you stated but didn't work, but reported 'omitting directories' error.

I rebooted the HN and did the same and copying worked.

But the new problem after starting the copied VPS.

#vzctl start 202 gives an error message:

"Unable to start init, probably incorrect template,  
VE start failed"

I created and destroyed the 202 earlier with a different distro and also the 202.conf.destroyed has also been removed.

However, when I copied to something new like 211 the ID which was not used before, it worked perfectly.

Could you elaborate what could be the reason or where to tweak in the cases like 202 as stated above?

Thank you for your continued cooperation,

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS

Posted by [Vasily Tarasov](#) on Mon, 20 Nov 2006 09:34:39 GMT

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Hmmm,

can you post output of the following commands:

```
# ls -l /vz/private/<veid>/sbin/ | grep init
```

```
# ls -l /vz/private/<veid>/bin/ | grep init
```

```
# ls -l /vz/private/<old_veid>/sbin/ | grep init
```

```
# ls -l /vz/private/<old_veid>/bin/ | grep init
```

<veid> is the id of newly created VE.

<old\_veid> is the id of original VE.

Tell me, were there some troubles while copying?

Any error messages? Does original VE start?

Thank you.

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS

Posted by [zenny](#) on Mon, 20 Nov 2006 09:47:55 GMT

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With the new VE, the above ls command outputs "No such file or Directory"

With the old VE, the first command (sbin dir) shows three files, init, initlog and telinit linked to init

the second command (bin dir) simply executes without any outputs.

And the cp went well without any glitches.

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS

Posted by [pixelplumber](#) on Wed, 18 Apr 2007 06:24:31 GMT

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Just want to add for anyone coming accross this thread that it's probably a good idea to use the cp -p option to preserve permissions. I copied a VPS once and root ended up owning everything inside the duplicated VPS which broke a few things.

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS

Posted by [jarcher](#) on Wed, 18 Apr 2007 06:31:38 GMT

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pixelplumber wrote on Wed, 18 April 2007 02:24 Just want to add for anyone coming accross this thread that it's probably a good idea to use the cp -p option to preserve permissions. I copied a VPS once and root ended up owning everything inside the duplicated VPS which broke a few things.

I learned that I need to use cp -a, which is the same as -dpR

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Subject: Re: Clone VPS

Posted by [ittec](#) on Fri, 29 Feb 2008 09:41:23 GMT

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Thanks, great post!!!

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Subject: Re: \*SOLVED\* Clone VPS

Posted by [ugob](#) on Sun, 02 Mar 2008 04:27:25 GMT

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pbundschuh wrote on Tue, 25 July 2006 07:51 Hello,

is it possible, to make an exact copy (=clone) of an vps on the same machine?

regards,

Philipp

I use vzdump to do that. Very nice tool. A backup tool at first, but I use it also to create some cloning.

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