

FreeBSD Administration - Support #474

Installing iRedMail 0.8.7 Mail Server on FreeBSD

11/12/2014 11:52 AM - Daniel Curtis

Status:	Closed	Start date:	11/12/2014
Priority:	Normal	Due date:	
Assignee:	Daniel Curtis	% Done:	100%
Category:	Mail Server	Estimated time:	3.00 hours
Target version:	FreeBSD 9	Spent time:	8.00 hours

Description

One of the core services of the Internet is email, and as such I needed to setup a mail server for one of my projects. Rather than setting up postfix, dovecot, spamassassin, etc. by hand, I found the useful open source project iRedMail. Unfortunately, this project currently is not in the port tree, however the install script uses the ports tree to install each of the necessary packages. This guide uses a FreeBSD 9.2 jail created using FreeNAS, so it should work on a bare metal setup as well; also this guide assumes that SSH has been enabled and a separate user used to run administrative commands has been created.

Update the system

- Login as root:

```
su -
```

- Update the ports tree

```
portsnap fetch extract
```

- Install portupgrade

```
cd /usr/ports/ports-mgmt/portupgrade
make install clean
```

- Upgrade the base system

```
portupgrade -a
```

- Check the current hostname:

```
hostname -f
```

- The output should look similar to the following:

```
mx.example.com
```

On FreeBSD, hostname is set in two files: /etc/rc.conf, /etc/hosts.

- Add or modify the /etc/rc.conf file:

```
hostname="mx.example.com"
```

- Add or modify the /etc/hosts file:

```
127.0.0.1    mx.example.com mx localhost localhost.localdomain
```

---

## Install iRedMail

- Install bash

```
portupgrade -Np shells/bash
```

- (Optional) Install mercurial

```
portupgrade -Np devel/mercurial
```

- Fetch and extract the iRedMail stable installer:

```
cd
fetch https://bitbucket.org/zhb/iredmail/downloads/iRedMail-0.8.7.tar.bz2
tar xjf iRedMail-0.8.7.tar.bz2
cd iRedMail-0.8.7
```

- Use the latest development installer (Recommended for FreeBSD 9 and higher)

```
bash
cd /usr/src
hg clone https://bitbucket.org/zhb/iredmail
cd iredmail/iRedMail
```

- Run the iRedMail Installer:

```
bash iRedMail.sh
```

## Configure iRedMail

The install process will pull in all the required packages during installation. Since each mail server is a little different, my setup uses the following parameters:

- Default mail storage path: **/var/vmail**
- Preferred backend used to store mail accounts: **MariaDB**
- First virtual domain name: **example.com**
- Optional components:
  - DKIM signing/verification
  - iRedAdmin
  - Roundcubemail
  - phpMyAdmin
  - Awstats

When the installation finishes, all the login information and URLs will be placed in the **iRedMail.tips** file.

## Troubleshooting

- **NOTE:** The latest stable version, 0.8.7, uses the older version of apache2. I needed to run the following to prevent upgrades from defaulting to apache24:

```
echo "USE_APACHE=22+" >> /etc/make.conf
```

- **NOTE:** On newer FreeBSD systems apache22 is deprecated, and this will break the iRedMail installer since it depends on apache22. In order to fix this problem, edit functions/packages\_freebsd.sh and make the following change:

```
DEFAULT_VERSIONS+=python=2.7 python2=2.7 apache=2.2
```

- **NOTE:** During the install I came across the following error:

apache22-2.2.29\_2 AUTHN\_DBD and DBD requires APR-util to have DBD support build in. Please rebuild APR at last with one DBD backend (MYSQL, PGSQL or SQLITE).

- In order to fix this, I needed to reinstall apr1 (this is to compile the modules required for the database backend):

```
cd /usr/ports/devel/apr1  
make reinstall clean
```

- Then rerun the iRedMail Installer:

```
cd ~/iRedMail-0.8.7  
bash iRedMail.sh
```

---

## Install Getmail

- Install getmail

```
cd /usr/ports/mail/getmail  
portupgrade -Np
```

## Configuring Getmail

- Unlock the vmail user

```
chsh -s /bin/sh vmail
```

- Switch to the vmail user

```
su - vmail
```

- Set up the getmail configuration

```
cd  
mkdir .getmail  
cp /usr/local/share/examples/getmail/getmailrc-examples .getmail/getmailrc
```

For user john, with an email address of [john@example.com](mailto:john@example.com), email user name john, a password of 1234, and an ISP whose pop server name is pop.example.com, we would like our getmailrc to look like this.

```
[options]  
verbose = 0
```

```
read_all = false
delete = false

[retriever]
type = SimplePOP3Retriever
server = pop.example.com
username = john
password = 1234

[destination]
type = MDA_external
path = /usr/local/libexec/dovecot/deliver
arguments = ("-e", "-f", "%(sender)", "-d", "john@example.com")
```

## Testing Getmail

- To test getmail simply type at a command prompt

```
getmail -v
```

If all is set up successfully, you should see it polling your pop server and retrieving your mail.

## Automating Getmail

Unlike fetchmail, getmail doesn't have a daemon option, so if you want it to poll your server at regular intervals, you will have to add a crontab entry. The man 5 crontab page explains things rather clearly, but a quick example.

- On most systems, a user can edit his own crontab. So as user john you would do

```
crontab -e
```

And add the following

```
*/2 * * * * /usr/local/bin/getmail
```

- This will run getmail every 2 minutes.

## Resources

- <http://www.iredmail.org/docs/install.iredmail.on.freebsd.html>
- <http://www.iredmail.org/download.html>
- <https://bitbucket.org/zhb/iredmail>

### Related issues:

Copied to FreeBSD Administration - Support #537: Install a Mail Server With i...

Closed

11/12/2014

### History

#1 - 11/12/2014 12:18 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

- % Done changed from 0 to 30

#2 - 11/12/2014 12:35 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#3 - 11/12/2014 12:47 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#4 - 11/12/2014 05:32 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#5 - 11/12/2014 06:19 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated
- % Done changed from 30 to 60

#6 - 11/12/2014 06:20 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#7 - 12/23/2014 04:37 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#8 - 12/24/2014 04:08 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated
- Status changed from New to In Progress

#9 - 12/26/2014 11:37 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated

#10 - 12/26/2014 05:31 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated
- % Done changed from 60 to 80

#11 - 12/26/2014 06:43 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Description updated
- Status changed from In Progress to Resolved
- % Done changed from 80 to 100

#12 - 12/26/2014 07:19 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Status changed from Resolved to Closed

#13 - 01/20/2015 03:31 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Subject changed from Installing iRedMail Mail Server on FreeBSD 9.2 to Installing iRedMail 0.8.7 Mail Server on FreeBSD 9.2

#14 - 01/20/2015 04:10 PM - Daniel Curtis

- Copied to Support #537: Install a Mail Server With iRedMail 0.9.0 on FreeBSD added

#15 - 02/14/2015 10:42 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Subject changed from Installing iRedMail 0.8.7 Mail Server on FreeBSD 9.2 to Installing iRedMail 0.8.7 Mail Server on FreeBSD
- Target version set to FreeBSD 9

#16 - 02/14/2015 11:52 AM - Daniel Curtis

- Category set to Mail Server

Files

iRedMail-0.8.7.tar.bz2	110 KB	11/12/2014	Daniel Curtis
------------------------	--------	------------	---------------