

```
ext3 and vm_base-swap.img with swap:

mkfs.ext3 /vserver/images/vm_base.img
```

When you see the following, answer with y:

```
/vserver/images/mail.img is not a block special device. 
 Proceed anyway? (y,n) <--y
```

mkswap /vserver/images/vm_base-swap.img

4.1 Install A Basic Debian In The Image

In order to install a basic Debian system in our image, we mount the image, run <code>debootstrap</code> and a few other commands:

```
mount -o loop /vserver/images/vm_base.img
/vserver/vm_base
debootstrap --arch i386 sarge /vserver
/vm_base/ http://ftp2.de.debian.org/debian
chroot /vserver/vm_base
apt-setup
```

You are asked the following question:

```
Archive access method for apt: <-- http
```

Then select a mirror close to you.

Afterwards, edit /etc/apt/sources.list and replace testing with stable. That's how my /etc/apt /sources.list looks:

```
deb http://ftp2.de.debian.org/debian/
  stable main
deb-src http://ftp2.de.debian.org/deb
ian/ stable main
deb http://security.debian.org/ stabl
e/updates main
```

Then run

```
apt-get update
```

Now we set up our *locales*. If we do not do this now, we will see some ugly warnings during base-config like these:

```
perl: warning: Setting locale failed.
perl: warning: Please check that your
locale settings:
       LANGUAGE = "en DE:en US:en GB
:en",
       LC ALL = (unset),
       LANG = "en US"
   are supported and installed on yo
ur system.
perl: warning: Falling back to the st
andard locale ("C").
locale: Cannot set LC CTYPE to defaul
t locale: No such file or directory
locale: Cannot set LC MESSAGES to def
ault locale: No such file or director
locale: Cannot set LC ALL to default
locale: No such file or directory
```

They are not serious, but ugly... So we run

```
apt-get install localeconf
```

Select locales to install (e.g. en_US ISO-8859-1) and select the standard locale (e.g. en US).

You will be asked a few questions:

```
Manage locale configuration files with debconf? <-- Yes
Environment settings that should override the default locale: <-- do not select anything
Replace existing locale configuration files?
<-- Yes
Default system locale: <-- e.g. en_US
ISO-8859-1
```

Next run

base-config

You will see a menu with installation options. This is what we do:

- Configure timezone
- Set up users and passwords
- Select and install packages (when it comes to Choose software to install:, you can choose

whatever you like; I, however, choose nothing because I want to install a basic system.)

• Finish configuring the base system

Don't deal with the other menu items, you don't need them. Then we remove nfs-common and delete /etc/hostname:

```
apt-get remove nfs-common
rm -f /etc/hostname
```

Then edit /etc/fstab. It should look like this:

```
/dev/hda1
   ext3
           defaults
                            1
                                    2
/dev/hda2
                         none
   swap
                         0
                                  0
/dev/pts
                         devpts
   gid=5, mode=620
none
                         /dev/shm
           defaults
                                 0
   tmpfs
```

Change /etc/network/interfaces to look like this:

```
auto lo
iface lo inet loopback
address 127.0.0.1
netmask 255.0.0.0
```

Then create /etc/hosts:

```
127.0.0.1 localhost.localdomain localhost

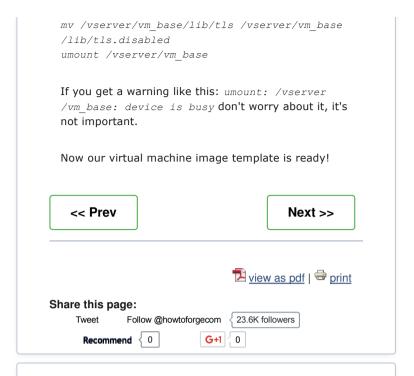
# The following lines are desirable f or IPv6 capable hosts
::1 ip6-localhost ip6-loopback fe00::0 ip6-localnet ff00::0 ip6-mcastprefix ff02::1 ip6-allnodes ff02::2 ip6-allrouters ff02::3 ip6-allhosts
```

Now we leave the chroot environment:

exit

Then we copy over the kernel modules to our virtual machine image and unmount the image:

```
cp -dpR /lib/modules/2.6.11.12-xenU /vserver
/vm_base/lib/modules/
```



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Comments

From: Anonymous

Reply

I had to make the ptmx device as well to get it up and running...

Issue the following command before mounting it: mknod --mode=666 /dev/ptmx c 5 2

From: Anonymous

Reply

Great document! Everything worked like a charm... except for one thing...

I recieved an error while running the base-config command. It constantly stopped with "Terminated" being output to the terminal. I ran strace against the command and I found that /dev/pts is not actually mounted in that file system, so it could not open the device (weird how that works). So, make sure to run the following command before running base-config to remedy this issue:

mount -t devpts -o rw,gid=5,mode=620 none /dev/pts Also, FYI: Xen running a virtual machine inside of a VMWare GSX server does not work so well. Thanks for the great write-up!

From: Anonymous

Reply

Under Ubuntu 5.10 (breezy) instead of doing 'apt-get install localeconf' which will fail anyway unless you add the universe repository, just issue this command:

```
dpkg-reconfigure locales
Then you can select:
en_US ISO-8859-1
-j
```

From: Anonymous

Reply

Some annotation to the last sentence of this page: if you get a warning like this: umount: /vserver /vm_base: device is busy it probably means that you accidentally started some daemon out of your chroot. At least it happened to me. I chrooted into the vserver disk, installed ssh and it immediately stopped my regulary ssh daemon and started that of the chroot instead. That was the cause of the error message.

Otherwise thanks for this document!

 $https://www.howtoforge.com/perfect_xen_setup_d...$

