

## 7.3 KVM



### Work in Progress

This page is currently a work in progress. If you would like to improve it, please request a wiki account.

Table of contents:

- [Requirements](#)
- [Installing KVM](#)
- [Using KVM](#)
- [Fresh example](#)

### Requirements

Currently KVM on OpenIndiana only supports recent Intel chipsets with VT and EPT instructions. It is also a very fresh port so bugs are to be expected.

### Installing KVM

```
pkg install \  
  driver/i86pc/kvm \  
  system/qemu \  
  system/qemu/kvm
```

### Using KVM

First create a zvol for the guest:

```
zfs create -p -V 10G rpool/kvm/myguest/disk0
```

Create a vnic (assumes e1000g0 as your primary NIC, substitute as necessary):

```
dladm create-vnic -l e1000g0 vnic0  
MAC=$(dladm show-vnic -po macaddress vnic0)
```

Invoke the `qemu-kvm` command, for example:

```
pfexec /usr/bin/qemu-kvm \  
  -boot cd \  
  -enable-kvm \  
  -vnc 0.0.0.0:1 \  
  -smp 2 \  
  -m 2048 \  
  -no-hpet \  
  -localtime \  
  -drive file=/dev/zvol/rdsk/rpool/kvm/myguest/disk0,if=ide,index=0 \  
  -drive file=/path/to/some/cdimage.iso,media=cdrom,if=ide,index=2 \  
  -net nic,vlan=0,name=net0,model=e1000,macaddr=$MAC \  
  -net vnic,vlan=0,name=net0,ifname=vnic0,macaddr=$MAC \  
  -vga std
```



### `/usr/bin/qemu`

The `/usr/bin/qemu` command is vanilla QEMU with no KVM support. You **must** use `/usr/bin/qemu-kvm` to use KVM.

### Fresh example

- Recent changes in illumos has caused malfunction of VirtualBox package on OI/hipster, thus making it unusable (it is crashing whole system). Since I already had few VB guests, all using zfs volumes, I have decided to try KVM instead...
  - Opening [bug](#) at VirtualBox for compiling problems did not show any progress
  - KVM (which also was failing because same illumos change) was easily fixed (see [#4410](#)) and OpenIndiana [forum](#) could not offer solution for VirtualBox failure problem.

- I was using Windows guest, so I can run some s/w which is missing for OI platform: Skype, TeamViever, Zoom, etc... (like recent browser versions, since OI Firefox 52 has lack of some ciphers support, for example). This example has purpose to give an idea how to use it, w/o spending hours on digging it from internet...
- `qemu-kvm` has several limitations (as far as I can tell):
  - it has no support of `spice` libraries, which provide clipboard sharing
  - graphical cards support is poor (maximum I could get is 1024x768, which is really not enough)
- Using guest GUI also has limitations:
  - both native `vga` and `vnc` support are lacking interaction with host MATE environment (shared folders and clipboard)
  - `vnc` support offers password protection, but you have to use `change vnc password` command to set it after guest boot (so no other people can access VM)
- Decided to enable remote desktop "server" on windows (so, user MUST have password set) and to access guest with `rdesktop` (present in OI; support both shared folder and clipboards) or `xfreerdp` (self compiled; supports shared clipboards, but I could not manage to get support for shared folders) utility
  - First, we need to start guest:

```

KVM start

$ qemu-kvm -m 1536M \
            -cpu host \
            -drive file=/dev/zvol/rdisk/mypool/VBoxGuests/WinHD \
            -k de \
            -smp 1 \
            -localtime \
            -clock unix \
            -soundhw all \
            -no-hpet \
            -bios /usr/share/qemu/bios.bin \
            -usbdevice tablet \
            -enable-kvm \
            -device e1000,netdev=user.0 \
            -netdev user,id=user.0,hostfwd=tcp::3389-:3389 \
            -nographic \
            -daemonize

```

**NOTES:**

- port 3389 is forwarded to guest (RDP)
- `nographic` option can be used ONLY *after* you were able to have GUI access to guest *and* enable remote desktop access
- also, you have to wait a bit, until guest is booted before you try to connect to it
- RDP window geometry is something you might want to experiment with (1900x1000 fits to my needs)
- windows NLA security has to be disabled (did not investigated further if there is another way to access to guest via RDP)
- Connection options (guest has to be booted, obviously, example assume windows user `predrag zecevic`)
  - `rdesktop`:

```

rdesktop

:; rdesktop -k de -z -m -x b -u "predrag zecevic" -p <PASSWORD> -g 1900x1000 -a 16 -T Win -
r disk:PZ=/nobackup/shared_folder -r clipboard:PRIMARYCLIPBOARD 0.0.0.0 &

```

- `xfreerdp`:

```

xfreerdp

:; xfreerdp -sec-nla -themes -wallpaper -glyph-cache +clipboard /u:"predrag zecevic" /p:
<PASSWORD> /kbd:German /audio-mode:1 /compression /bpp:16 /async-update /async-input
/geometry /dynamic-resolution /size:1900x1000 /t:Win /v:0.0.0.0 &

```

- Various references:
  - [this page](#)
  - <http://www.frijid.net/blog/index.php/2015/08/10/installing-windows-7-kvmqemu-guest-onto-a-zfs-zvol-on-a-linux-host/>
  - [https://www.suse.com/documentation/sles11/book\\_kvm/data/cha\\_qemu\\_running\\_vnc.html](https://www.suse.com/documentation/sles11/book_kvm/data/cha_qemu_running_vnc.html)
  - <https://www.linuxquestions.org/questions/slackware-14/sound-not-working-in-virt-manager-guests-4175577240/>
  - <https://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/linux-kvm-vnc-for-guest-machine/>
- Hope this will help someone. My personal favorite is `xfreerdp` (even w/o shared folder support, because it is somehow "faster" and offers better font rendering). [Predrag Zeevi](#)2018/10/02
  - Audio problems fixed (see <https://unix.stackexchange.com/a/396468>)



**Work in Progress**

This page is currently a work in progress. If you would like to improve it, please request a wiki account.