A Personal FreeBSD Deployment

“Things I wish had known before starting a FreeBSD deployment”

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https://dbalan.in
@notmycommit
• Laptop and a handful of Servers
• Caters to personal needs, sometimes friends.
• Minimal automation
• Email
• Storage
• Notes
• Blog
• Some meta things – ldap, monitoring
Physical VS Cloud
Expensive
Extensive managed services

FreeBSD on cloud is a second class citizen
Cheap
Physical machines
Jails is not a feature in isolation; rather a piece of the puzzle.
• Jails, duh
• Networking, pf
• pkg
Securing data

• Specific to my situation
RAID 1

Disk 0
- root
- encrypted

Disk 1
- root
- encrypted
1 # PROVIDE: geli0
2 # BEFORE: disks
3 # REQUIRE: initrrandom
4 # KEYWORD: nojail
geli0_start()
{
    zfs mount -av
    /etc/rc.d/hostid start
    /etc/rc.d/hostname start
    /etc/rc.d/netif start
    /etc/rc.d/routing start
    /etc/rc.d/sshd start

    echo -n "Waiting for zpool:encrypted to become available,"
    echo -n "press enter to continue..."
    echo

    while true; do
        if [ -e /dev/ada0p4.eli -a -e /dev/ada1p4.eli ]; then
            break
        fi
    done
    read -t 5 dummy && break

    /etc/rc.d/sshd stop
    pkill sshd
    /etc/rc.d/routing stop
    /etc/rc.d/netif stop
    # /etc/rc.d/devd stop
}
Automation

• Straightforward: updates, renewals

• Not so obvious – Building packages, tree
You will end up building a lot of packages
Most difficult thing about Poudrière was learning to pronounce it.
1 poudreire jail -c -n 12amd64 -v 12.1-RELEASE
2 poudreire ports -c -p dev -m svn
3 poudriere bulk -j 12amd64 -p local -z x230 -f laptop
You will end up building tree, a lot!
1 rsync server:/usr/src /usr/src
2 rsync server:/usr/obj /usr/ob
3
4 cd /usr/src && make installkernel
5 reboot
6 cd /usr/src && make installworld
7 mergemaster -Ui
8 reboot
Upgrading always becomes a chore.
refs

- You don’t need xts
  https://sockpuppet.org/blog/2014/04/30/you-dont-want-xts/


Thanks

- **fox@** for helping me figure jails.
- **philipp@** for the original disk encryption script.
- **freebsd-questions@** and **freebsd-current@** for trying to solve all of my issues and succeeding in most of them.