

OpenRC

OpenRC is a dependency based init system that works with the system provided init program, normally `/sbin/init` (which is `svsvinit` in Slackware). It is not a replacement for `/sbin/init`.

Features

OpenRC provides a number of features touted as innovative by recent init systems like `systemd` or `upstart`, such as hardware initiated initscript run or `cgroups` support, without requiring large layout changes to accommodate radically different designs and dependencies.

Installation

Pre installation

The `/etc/init.d` directory (a symlink to `/etc/rc.d/init.d`) will need to be moved:

```
# mv /etc/init.d /etc/init.d.bak
```

Installing

Two [Slackbuilds](#) are available, [openrc](#), which contains the OpenRC init system, and [openrc-services](#), which contains various services for use with OpenRC.

Post installation

After installing, `/etc/inittab` will need to be replaced. The old one can be backed up:

```
# cp /etc/inittab /etc/inittab.sysvinit
# mv /etc/inittab.new /etc/inittab
```

The main configuration file for OpenRC is `/etc/rc.conf`, and contains various options.

A common option that could be changed is to enable boot logging by setting `rc_logger="YES"`, this way any errors encountered via booting could be logged and examined later (default log location is `/var/log/rc.log`).

On reboot

After installing openrc and openrc-services, on rebooting one is booted to a command line with only the bare minimum of services enabled.

It may show a warning about deprecated support for `/etc/mtab` as a file, and how to correct it:

```
# cp /etc/mtab /etc/mtab.bak
# ln -snf /proc/self/mounts /etc/mtab
```

It may also complain about missing `/etc/sysctl.conf` file which can be created as:

```
# touch /etc/sysctl.conf
```

Enabling some services

Services can be enabled as:

```
# rc-service add <service> <runlevel>
```

They can be disabled as:

```
# rc-service del <service> <runlevel>
```

Some common services that could be enabled:

```
# rc-update add dbus default
# rc-update add syslogd default
# rc-update add dcron default
# rc-update add alsasound default # for desktop
# rc-update add consolekit default # for desktop
# rc-update add sshd default # for server
```

Enabled services in current runlevel can be queried with:

```
$ rc-status
```

Enabled services across all runlevels can be queried with:

```
$ rc-update
```

Some services that are enabled by default for the **sysinit** runlevel include `udev` and `udev-postmount`.

Users who use `dmccrypt`, `lvm`, or `mdraid` could add the following services respectively to the **boot** runlevel:

```
# rc-update add dmccrypt boot # dmccrypt
# rc-update add device-mapper boot # lvm
```

```
# rc-update add lvm boot          # lvm
# rc-update add mdraid boot       # mdraid
```

Network

If using ethernet via DHCP, the **dhcpcd** service could be enabled:

```
# rc-update add dhcpcd default
```

If using wifi with laptops the **NetworkManager** or **wicd** service could be enabled. The combination of dhcpcd and wpa_supplicant (along with a frontend like wpa_gui or wpa_cli) could also be used as a lightweight alternative.

A static network can be configured by editing */etc/conf.d/network*.

Display manager

To boot to a graphical display manager, */etc/conf.d/xdm* can be edited to specify the display manager, and the xdm service could be enabled:

```
# rc-update add xdm default
```

If using a laptop, the **acpid** service could be enabled as well.

Migrating existing enabled services

To check existing enabled services, following code could be used:

```
for file in /etc/rc.d/*; do
  if [ -x "${file}" ]; then
    echo "enabled ${file}"
  fi
done
```

For these services corresponding OpenRC services could be enabled, for example:

```
# rc-update add acpid default
# rc-update add cgmanager default
# rc-update add gpm default
...
```

All services present can be queried via:

```
$ rc-update -v
```

Configuration

OpenRC services are present in the */etc/init.d* folder, and corresponding configuration files are present in */etc/conf.d*

Some common configuration files include:

```
/etc/conf.d/modules    # modules to be loaded at boot
/etc/conf.d/hostname  # hostname of the system
/etc/conf.d/keymaps    # console keymap
```

Services

Services can be started/stopped/restarted as:

```
# rc-service <service> <action>
```

For example,

```
# rc-service sshd start
```

Troubleshooting

At the moment only a subset of the included services have been tested, so some of them may not run correctly.

If some service does not work try the system provided one in */etc/rc.d* if available.

mysqld

Try adding the following lines to */etc/my.cnf*

```
[mysqld]
user = mysql
basedir = /usr
datadir = /var/lib/mysql
pid-file = /run/mysql/mysql.pid
socket = /var/run/mysql/mysql.sock
```

See Also

[Wikipedia](#)

[Gentoo Wiki](#)

[Github](#)

[LQ thread](#)

[openrc-services repo](#)

Sources

* Originally written by [Aaditya](#)

[howtos](#), [init](#), [author aaditya](#)

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