

OpenRC

OpenRC is a dependency based service management system. It works with the system provided init program, normally */sbin/init*.

Features

OpenRC provides a number of features like hardware initiated initscript run and cgroups support, without requiring large layout changes.

Installation

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 installation, some steps are needed to boot with OpenRC.

Setup the agetty services

```
# main tty
ln -s /etc/openrc/init.d/agetty /etc/openrc/init.d/agetty.tty1
/sbin/rc-update add agetty.tty1 default
cp /etc/openrc/conf.d/agetty /etc/openrc/conf.d/agetty.tty1
echo 'agetty_options="--noclear"' >> /etc/openrc/conf.d/agetty.tty1

# additional ttys
for i in {2..6}; do
    ln -s /etc/openrc/init.d/agetty /etc/openrc/init.d/agetty.tty${i}
    /sbin/rc-update add agetty.tty${i} default
done

# serial tty (for servers)
ln -s /etc/openrc/init.d/agetty /etc/openrc/init.d/agetty.ttyS0
/sbin/rc-update add agetty.ttyS0 default

cp /etc/openrc/conf.d/agetty /etc/openrc/conf.d/agetty.ttyS0
echo 'agetty_options="--noclear"' >> /etc/openrc/conf.d/agetty.ttyS0
```

Update boot parameters

Add the following to your boot parameters (via */etc/lilo.conf* for lilo or */etc/default/grub* for grub):

```
init=/sbin/openrc-init
```

Regenerate boot configuration ('lilo -v' or 'grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg').

Enable boot logging

The main configuration file for OpenRC is */etc/openrc/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

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.bkp
# 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/openrc/conf.d/network`.

Display manager

To boot to a graphical display manager, `/etc/openrc/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/openrc/init.d* folder, and corresponding configuration files are present in */etc/openrc/conf.d*

Some common configuration files include:

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

Service management

Services can be started/stopped/restarted as:

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

For example,

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

Shutdown/reboot

To shutdown or reboot, one will need to use **openrc-shutdown**. To shutdown from a desktop environment using ConsoleKit2, check out this [PR](#).

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
```

Dealing with crashed services

Sometimes openrc reports a service's status as "crashed". The process may have died or its pid file disappeared/changed.

If one tries to start a crashed service, ``rc-service`` reports:

- WARNING: <service> has already been started

So one tries to stop it before starting again.

However in some situations, the service does not stop. This leads to a deadlock where one can neither stop the service nor start it. For such cases:

```
# rc-service <service> zap
* Manually resetting <service> to stopped state
```

zap resets the service state, allowing us to start it again.

openrc-init

Since version **0.25**, openrc provides *openrc-init* which can be used to boot the system.

This allows switching between OpenRC and other init systems, for example sysvinit, just by changing boot parameters.

For more info, check out the [Gentoo wiki](https://wiki.gentoo.org/wiki/OpenRC).

Migrating from `/etc/init.d` to `/etc/openrc/init.d`

OpenRC 0.39+, as shipped via SBo, changes the service and configuration directory to `/etc/openrc` instead of `/etc`.

This is being done to maintain greater compatibility with a vanilla Slackware install.

Existing services will need to be migrated, details below on how it can be done.

1. Install `openrc-0.39.2` and `openrc-services-20181107`

These packages ship the configuration and service files in `/etc/openrc`.

2. Migrate existing services

This involves 4 steps:

```
# migrate existing services
for service in /etc/init.d/*; do
    svcname=$(basename "$service")
    if [ ! -e "/etc/openrc/init.d/${svcname}" ]; then
        if [ -f "/etc/init.d/${svcname}" ] && grep -q openrc
"/etc/init.d/${svcname}"; then
            cp -v "/etc/init.d/${svcname}" "/etc/openrc/init.d/${svcname}"
        elif [ -L "/etc/init.d/${svcname}" ]; then
            # check if symlink is of a service
            service_target=$(readlink -f "$service")
            service_target_name=$(basename "$service_target")
            if [ $(dirname "$service_target") = "/etc/init.d" ]; then
                ln -sv "/etc/openrc/init.d/${service_target_name}"
"/etc/openrc/init.d/${svcname}"
            fi
        fi
    fi
done

# enable existing services
for runlevel in /etc/runlevels/*; do
    for service in ${runlevel}/*; do
        svcname=$(basename "$service")
        rvlname=$(basename "$runlevel")
        if [ ! -e /etc/openrc/runlevels/${rvlname}/${svcname} ] && [ -e
/etc/openrc/init.d/${svcname} ]; then
            ln -sv /etc/openrc/init.d/${svcname}
/etc/openrc/runlevels/${rvlname}/${svcname}
        fi
    done
done
```

```
done

# check config changes
for file in /etc/conf.d/*; do
    filename=$(basename "$file")
    extension="${filename##*.}"
    if [ "$extension" = orig ] || [ "$extension" == new ]; then
        continue # dont need to check extra
    fi
    if [ -e "/etc/conf.d/${filename}" ] && [ -e
"/etc/openrc/conf.d/${filename}" ]; then
        diff -Nupr "/etc/conf.d/${filename}" "/etc/openrc/conf.d/${filename}"
    fi
done
# main config file
diff -Nupr /etc/rc.conf /etc/openrc/rc.conf

# check local.d changes
for file in /etc/local.d/*; do
    filename=$(basename "$file")
    if [ ! -e "/etc/openrc/local.d/${filename}" ]; then
        cp -v "/etc/local.d/${filename}" "/etc/openrc/local.d/${filename}"
    elif [ -e "/etc/local.d/${filename}" ] && [ -e
"/etc/openrc/local.d/${filename}" ]; then
        # show changes
        diff -Nupr "/etc/local.d/${filename}" "/etc/openrc/local.d/${filename}"
    fi
done
```

Config changes found above can be updated by hand or copy pasted in new location.

3. Check and reboot

Verify if `rc-status` is showing all services (it may show them as stopped).

Reboot and check whether things are working expected, make changes as necessary.

The old files and folders can be renamed (or removed).

```
mv /etc/init.d /etc/init.d-openrc-bkp
mv /etc/conf.d /etc/conf.d-openrc-bkp
mv /etc/local.d /etc/local.d-openrc-bkp
mv /etc/runlevels /etc/runlevels-openrc-bkp
mv /etc/rc.conf /etc/rc.conf-openrc.bkp
```

Finally, any changes done to the default Slackware system can be reverted:

```
mv /etc/init.d-bkp /etc/init.d
```

See Also

[Wikipedia](#)

[Gentoo Wiki](#)

[Github](#)

[User guide](#)

[LQ thread](#)

[openrc-services repo](#)

Sources

* Originally written by [Aaditya](#)

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

From:

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Last update: **2018/11/30 19:09 (UTC)**

