

Re: problems with debootstrap and stable or sarge

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2004-05/2823.html>

From: Bob Proulx (bob_at_proulx.com)

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To: Debian users <debian-user@lists.debian.org>

Hi David!

I know that Colin Watson gave you expert advice and it seems like you are now moving forward. But I wanted to shift gears and ask a different question.

David T-G wrote:

> *I have a trash-able SuSE system I want to use to do a chroot install*
> *of Debian before trying it on my LFS-based server. I have extracted*
> *the debootstrap package contents, have /mnt/suse81 ready to catch the*
> *install, and have downloaded files to a handy /mnt/empty.*
>
> *For my first try, I pulled down 'stable' to the tune of about 1.5G and*
> *tried*

Oh wow. 1.5GB! Do I understand that you downloaded the entire depot? Since you downloaded the files to the machine you are going to install upon I know that you have networking. Which means you can do a network install instead and only download what you need. You can do this in a chroot and I think avoid that painful download of things that you won't be using.

Usually I do a debootstrap using the live network and it only needs about 107MB to install a basic system. Then whatever else is whatever else and a basic x86 server runs in the neighborhood of 500MB in a practical configuration.

The debian.org docs on this (this section written by the other Collin, Collin Walters, IIRC) are quite good.

<http://www.debian.org/doc/manuals/reference/ch-tips.en.html#s-chroot>

Additionally Karsten Self wrote a nice howto of related information.

<http://twiki.iwethey.org/Main/DebianChrootInstall>

Debian–User: Re: problems with debootstrap and stable or sarge

Some time ago Guillem Jover wrote:

I've made now publicly available the script[1] I've been working on to substitute in runtime any distribution to Debian. It does not convert in the sense of mapping all previous installed packages to the Debian counterparts, but installs a base system or tarball and cleans traces from previous distribution, from there you are in a purified environment. =P

<http://lists.debian.org/debian-devel/2004/01/msg00313.html>