

Re: [opensuse] Hardware req. for server?

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- *From:* Per Jessen <per@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Russell Jones wrote:

What packages do you have installed? Or if the list's too long, how many?

I think the total install was about 1.6G, but I don't know how many packages – is there an easy way to look it up?

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rpm -ql | wc -l
```

696 packages.

Quite. I think something like Debian 3.1 is better suited to this job.. If it's just running as a firewall (and not, say, an HTTP proxy server), swapping won't be an issue.

Absolutely. And I agree that other distros could well be better suited – it's purely a technical management issue of sticking to one distro.

However, I'd find the slowness when adding new packages (bridging tools, say) irritating.

Agreed, it is – but fortunately, a firewall/gateway is very stable. In our case, it really does just two things – firewall and NAT router. I've kept it up to date with the latest 2.4 series kernels and such, but that's all done by hand anyway.

This machine is meant to replace our current firewall/gateway which

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is an ancient 486DX2 with 24M running suse 7.1. It's doing perfectly fine, but we want to upgrade to a more recent suse version.

I guess it'd be nice to have some of the newer kernel features. Packet filtering tables have changed a bit over the last few releases of Linux,

Yeah. A new requirement is also to have the machine run an automatic ISDN dial backup, which the old 486 could easily do, but as we will be opening the box anyway, it seemed an opportune moment to upgrade to 10.2.

/Per Jessen, Zürich

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