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## **Installing an IBM Workplace/Portal Server on Linux**

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Installing an IBM Workplace/Portal Server on Linux.....	1
1. Introduction.....	3
2. Installing CentOS.....	4
3. Installing IBM Workplace/Portal server.....	6
4. Starting.....	7
5. Additional: Installing VNC Server for remote management.....	8
6. Questions .....	9



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## 1. Introduction

In this document we show all steps how to install an IBM Workplace/Portal server onto Linux.

Software versions used in this document:

Linux: CentOS 4.3 for i386 (32bit)  
Application: IBM Workplace Services Express 2.5.1

## 2. Installing CentOS

After downloading the latest CentOS image and burning the ISO to a DVD, put the DVD in the server and boot it. Follow the steps below.

- 1) When the server boots from the CD, it will show the CentOS installation screen, saying: .."type 'i586' for i586 install, 'linux text' for a text only install"... etc. Type "linux allowcddma" now, otherwise the error: "Disk is full" might raise during installation, this is a 'bug' in the CentOS installation. Many people throw away the CD at that point and start installing Windows.
- 2) A new screen will raise which asks for a Media check. You could do this to ensure the DVD you burned is 100% correct. To save time you may SKIP this step.
- 3) Choose "English (English)" as setup language and press NEXT. It's better to choose English because when an error raises, you can much better search an english error message in Google than a Dutch or other language's error message.
- 4) Choose your keyboard layout and press NEXT. We choose "U.S. English" here.
- 5) Select to install the system as a "SERVER" and press NEXT.
- 6) Select "Automaticly Partition" and press NEXT. (assuming you have an empty harddisk and trust CentOS deciding how to partition).
- 7) Select "Remove ALL Partitions" and press NEXT.  
A popup window "Are you sure you want to do this ?" will raise, press YES.
- 8) You will see how CentOS will partition your harddisk now. Just press NEXT.
- 9) You will see a screen with information about the Bootloader now. Just press NEXT.
- 10) Configure your IP information. In our case we use a static IP address (because it is a server). You can modify this later within the OS.  
Press NEXT.
- 11) You will see a screen with security options. We select "No Firewall" here because we place the server behind our own hardware firewall.  
We also do not like the SELinux but like to see messages so configure SELinux as "WARN".  
Press PROCEED.  
A popup window about the No-Firewall option will raise, just press YES.
- 12) Select the languages you wish to install on the system. We choose "English (USA)" and "Dutch (Netherlands)" here and configure "English (USA)" as our standard language. Press NEXT.
- 13) Select the timezone the server is in. We use "Europe - Amsterdam". Press NEXT.
- 14) Type the root password for the system now. Do not forget this one, it is the heart of the system!

15) You can choose installation options/packages now. Since we decided to install CentOS as a server, some options are already checked. We also check the following options:

- X Window System
  - Editors
  - Graphical Internet (click "details" here and only select: "firefox" and "gftp").
  - Development Tools
  - X Software Development
  - GNOME Software Development
  - KDE Software Development
  - Legacy Software Development
- Press Next.

16) You will see the last screen now, before the real install process will start. Press NEXT.

17) After copying all the files, you will see a "Congratulations" screen. Remove the DVD and press REBOOT.

18) After the system reboot, walk through the following screens:

- Welcome screen, just press NEXT.
- License screen, just press NEXT.
- Date and Time screen, make sure the date/time is correct, you might want to configure a NTP (Network Time Protocol) Server here. Press NEXT.
- Display screen, you might want to configure the display here. Press NEXT.
- User screen. We use this to add a new user "admin" here (this user has less rights than the earlier configured 'root' password. Press NEXT.
- Additional CDs screen, just press NEXT.
- Finish screen, just press NEXT.

CentOS is now configured on the system. We continue to install the IBM Workplace/Portal server now.

### 3. Installing IBM Workplace/Portal server

Login to the server, we use 'root' with the root password, this to make sure we don't get any right/permission issues. There are safer ways to install and a lot of experts will say you should never login as 'root' just for installing, but when you exactly follow the steps below, nothing can happen. I agree logging in as 'root' is actually not-done but that's another story.

- 1) Click on the CD-ROM icon in the upper left of the screen.
- 2) Navigate to the WSEServer directory.
- 3) Click the "install.sh" script and click "Execute Shell Command" from the "Tools" menu. Press OK in the popup window.
- 4) After a terminal screen with a lot of dots (...), select you language. We select "English" here. Press NEXT.
- 5) The installation will check the OS. We installed CentOS and not RedHat Linux Enterprise or SUSE or Windows Server (as said by the requirements). However CentOS is almost the same as RedHat Linux Enterprise. You would probably get a message that the OS is not supported or correct. Just press OK here.
- 6) Choose the installation directory. We choose the standard installation directory. Press NEXT.
- 7) Type the hostname for the (web) Workplace/Portal server here. It's recommended to use the same hostname as you did by configuring your network settings. Press NEXT.
- 8) In the administrator user screen, type the username and password for the workplace/portal server. This has nothing to do with the CentOS user accounts. Press NEXT
- 9) Press INSTALL.

You've now successfully installed IBM Workplace/Portal server on your system.

Continue to the next chapter to start and use the server.



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#### 4. Starting

To start the server, open a terminal window (from the system tools menu) and type:  
`/opt/IBM/WorkplaceServicesExpress/PortalServer/rootscripts/startWorkplaceServices.sh`

To enter the IBM Workplace/Portal server, open your browser and go to:  
<http://hostname:9081/lwp/workplace>.

## 5. Additional: Installing VNC Server for remote management

Remote management can be done by using Putty and logging on to the server.

However, if you want to see a pcanywhere alike screen, install VNC Server by doing the following:

Open a Terminal window (from the system tools menu) and type:

```
"vi /etc/sysconfig/vncservers"
```

Uncomment the two lines: "VNCSERVERS=..." and "VNCSERVERARGS[1]=..."

Change the word "myusername" in the first uncommended line to "admin". This is the user we created during the CentOS installation.

Press ":wq!" to save and quit.

```
"su admin"
```

(We change the root user into admin user here. We created the admin user during the CentOS setup).

```
"vncpasswd"
```

Enter a password for VNC here (twice).

```
"exit"
```

(We switch back to the root user again).

```
"vi /home/admin/.vnc/xstartup"
```

Uncomment the twoe lines: "unset..." and "exec ....".

Press ":wq!" to save and quit.

Note: If you connect with the VNC Client to the server and only see a black screen or black window with the Mouse pointer on it. Then you didn't changed this file.

```
"chkconfig --add vncserver"
```

```
"chkconfig vncserver on"
```

Close the terminal window now and logoff from the server and REBOOT it.

VNC Server is now automatically started.

You can connect to it with a VNC Client (RealVNC) using "ip:port".

I.e.: "192.168.0.2:1".

Note: VNC is not very safe. It's more safe to connect via VNC over SSH.





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## 6. Questions

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