Monitoring with Munin

Posted by [martijnvanb](#) on Fri 23 May 2008 at 13:47

In this article I will describe how to install [munin](#) on 2 computers, but you can add more if you want to, this will allow us to remotely monitor system performance and activity.

Munin communicates in a client daemon way. The master-package is [the munin package](#), it collects data from a local or remote daemon. The daemon is called [munin-node](#) the node collects data on the local machine.

`munin-node` will allow one or more masters to collect data to a central location where the `munin` master is running.

Now lets get started. First I will describe my situation.:

> One computer is called aikido(192.168.1.1) On this computer we will install munin(master) and munin-node(daemon)

> Aikido will be our central place for collecting data,you could call this the "server" but I think that is incorrect.

> My other computer is called jiu-jitsu(192.168.1.2). On this computer we will only install munin-node(daemon)

Aikido (master and daemon)

Lets start with installing `munin` and `munin-node` on aikido:

```
aikido:~# aptitude install munin munin-node
```

Apache configuration

By default munin-graphs are public I don't like that, if you don't mind you can skip this part. I will make the munin graphs more private by protecting them with a username and password.

Add this user with:

```
aikido:~# htpasswd -c /etc/munin/munin.passwd munin
New password: *******
Re-type new password:   *******
Adding password for user munin
```

Tell apache2 to ask for a username and password for viewing muning graphs:

```
aikido:~# vi/etc/apache2/sites-available/munin.conf

Alias /munin /var/www/munin/

<directory /var/www/munin/>
        AllowOverride None
        Options ExecCGI FollowSymlinks
```

```
        AddHandler cgi-script .cgi
        DirectoryIndex index.cgi
        AuthUserFile /etc/munin/munin.passwd
        AuthType basic
        AuthName "Munin stats"
        require valid-user
</directory>
```

Enable `munin.conf` in apache2:

```
aikido:~# a2ensite munin.conf
```

Reload apache to activate the new munin config:

```
aikido:~# /etc/init.d/apache reload
```

Now our munin-graphs are protected with a username and password.

Configure munin(master)

Each node has to be configured in munin(master) So lets add some daemons to our system:

```
aikido:~# vi /etc/munin/munin.conf
[aikido]
    address 127.0.0.1
    use_node_name yes

[jiu-jitsu]
    address 192.168.1.2
    use_node_name yes
```

Configure munin-node(daemon)

A default node will listen on all interfaces, but will only allow clients from localhost. Lets change that to a daemon listening on his own interface(127.0.0.1).

```
aikido:~# vi /etc/munin/munin-node.conf
change host * to host 127.0.0.1
```

We made a change to munin-node.conf so we have to restart it:

```
aikido:~# /etc/init.d/munin-node restart
```

Now we are finished with the master part.

jiu-jitsu(daemon)

Lets install munin-node:

```
jiu-jitsu:~#  aptitude install munin-node
```

Lets change that to a daemon listening on his own interface(192.168.1.2) and only allow a certain master(192.168.1.1) to collect data.

```
jiu-jitsu:~#  vi /etc/munin/munin-node.conf
```

```
change host * to host 192.168.1.2
change allow ^127\.0\.0\.1$ to allow ^192\.168\.1\.1$
```

We made changes to `munin-node.conf` so we need to restart munin-node:

```
jiu-jitsu:~# /etc/init.d/munin-node restart
```

Plugins

By default munin-plugins are installed in /usr/share/munin/plugins If you want to enable a plugin just add a symbolic link to that plugin.

For example we might be interested in some firewallgraphs of jiu-jitsu:

```
jiu-jitsu:~# cd /etc/munin/plugins/
ln -s /usr/share/munin/plugins/fw* .
```

And perhaps some graphs about munin itself.

```
jiu-jitsu:~# cd /etc/munin/plugins/
ln -s /usr/share/munin/plugins/munin* .
```

Restart munin-node:

```
jiu-jitsu:~#/etc/init.d/munin-node restart
```

We're Finished!

By default munin gathers information every 5 minutes.

Drink some coffee or tea and point your browser to http://aikido/munin/index.html, login with your username/password and if you did everything right you should see some nice graphs of aikido and jiu-jitsu.

Some plugins require additional configuration, read information supplied with the plugins.

Thats all.

This article can be found online at the **Debian Administration** website at the following bookmarkable URL:

* http://www.debian-administration.org/articles/597

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