

Service announcement – Intermittent service on 2021-05-22 – Server upgrade!

Hello there,

please note that we will be doing planned maintenance on the system on **2021-05-22**

This is the 22nd of May. <https://xkcd.com/1179/> ;-)

For short: On this date, services of „freeshell.de“ are not available for an absolute maximum of 12 hours, due to a server upgrade.

Planned result:

-> **New server (Hardware Upgrade + OS/Software Upgrade)**

-> **Your personal quota increases to more than 20 GB!**

Detailed announcements („live ticker“) will be made on twitter and facebook on that date:

<https://twitter.com/DJ4PK>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/124862454197322/>

For the tech-savvy among you, here is the long story:

On the aforementioned date, the system will move to another data center server with more resources.

After > 5 years sitting on the same hardware specifications since the last upgrade, the need to do „something“ arose.

Here is a little table for you, what major changes will happen:

	NOW	THEN
OS	Debian 9 LTS	Ubuntu 20.04.x („focal“) LTS
Kernel	Kernel 4.9.0-xx	Kernel 5.4.0-xx
CPU	8 Core Xeon (E3-1241v3)	12 Core Xeon (E-2176G)
RAM	32 GB RAM	64 GB RAM (ECC)
HDD	1.0 TB RAID	8.0 TB RAID (expandable)
Your default quota increases	1 GB	20 GB *
WAN connectivity server	100 Mbit/s guaranteed BW	1 GBit/s guaranteed BW
Database	MySQL 5.7.xx	MySQL 8.0.xx
Server location	Germany	Germany
Backup concept	One separate location	Two separate locations
IPV4 / IPV6 subnets	Yes / Yes	Yes / Yes

* In „marketing terms“ even more, because:

- the Owncloud quota is counted separately
- the size of your MySQL database technically doesn't count at all
- and the Kopano Groupware (you may optionally use as an alternative email system here) has no quotas set
- maybe I even forgot something here...

The upgrade -> Procedure and planning:

Everything will be moved automatically for you, you don't have to do backups or alike, everything will be preserved!

The only thing you might notice: Missing programs (and „libs“) I centrally installed for you on the OS level in the past ~19 years. I was not able to compile a complete list that would satisfy all of you (because of changed package names, retired packages, and such).

If anything will be missing, that you need, please report it through the request form:

<https://freeshell.de/request-form/>

Anything will be installed, that is available in the Ubuntu „Focal“-Repository: <https://packages.ubuntu.com/>

I might even consider some „3rd-party PPAs“, if the reasons, and the maturity of the software are right ;-)

Special use / niche use cases:

I know, by personal correspondence, that a couple of you use the system to circumvent, let's say, certain 'local limitations'. So if anything comes up regarding that matter, appropriate action can easily be taken.

There are many techniques and services in place at the moment that will simply come back the moment they are requested again! Things like: „DNS2TCP“, „SSH-Daemon on alternative tcp-high-ports“, ... you name it.

I'm sure I didn't think of everything...in any case: **Just ask for it!**

This system is kept as friendly and as open and accessible to everyone as possible!



Taking action?!

Three (possible) TODOs for you, on the new system, AFTER the move happened, if applicable for you:

0.) Re-Request software packages and/or libraries you are missing: <https://freeshell.de/request-form/>

1.) Re-Request your firewall port(s). The new system will start fresh regarding the inbound firewall ruleset!

2.) Your personal „crontab“ or „at-jobs“: They will be preserved in your home-directory as files, for review!

File naming scheme:

/home/<u>/<username>/your-crontab-file-<some-random-value-to-prevent-filename-conflicts>

/home/<u>/<username>/your-at-file-<some-random-value-to-prevent-filename-conflicts>

-> If they are still good to go „as-is“, just „copy-paste“ the content back („crontab -e“) then!

Identifying the new system:

The SSH „fingerprint-set“ of the **new** system is:

Old-style notation:

3072 MD5:d1:0d:d2:cc:a1:fa:3b:f6:28:cc:c8:c6:49:76:8b:e7 (RSA)

256 MD5:f0:7a:cd:56:94:a8:41:55:0e:c9:df:91:dd:a6:10:a4 (ED25519)

256 MD5:4a:0f:b4:89:c2:8b:3a:86:01:19:83:79:d0:80:c3:50 (ECDSA)

New-style notation:

3072 SHA256:pDFR0atCakVtmZProASRXRGq2aXyKxW6KMx8F6gZtvE (RSA)

256 SHA256:ZqpqRZyzAnlwjFFbycMVmZVJIUQ7NQQVindfsuTLU37A (ECDSA)

256 SHA256:/uazD/Cfo+SC9/3JgsIWkbKvev0MP5ikNUficvU7KJk (ED25519)

So you are able to determine if connecting to the right system, and, that no „man-in-the-middle“ is taking place.

Trivia:

It is crazy how time passed by! When the system begun its service on 2002-09-19, everything was run from my home. The processor was a Pentium I (Socket 7 / ~1997), bandwidth was 384 kbit/s, and because of the noise and heat, the computer was on the balcony, in summer, and winter... Those were the times... 😊

<https://freeshell.de/about/>



That's all for now. Take care, stay healthy!

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=GP8NMU4S4Q2XL

Sorry, couldn't resist ;-)



*Best Regards,
Sebastian /sk
DJ4PK*