

1.1.15 Ensure nodev option set on /dev/shm partition (Scored)

Profile Applicability

```
Level 1 - Server  
Level 1 - Workstation
```

Description

The nodev mount option specifies that the filesystem cannot contain special devices.

Rationale

Since the /dev/shm filesystem is not intended to support devices, set this option to ensure that users cannot attempt to create special devices in /dev/shm partitions.

Audit

Run the following command and verify that the nodev option is set on /dev/shm.

```
# mount | grep /dev/shm  
tmpfs on /dev/shm type tmpfs (rw,nosuid,nodev,noexec,relatime)
```

Remediation

Edit the /etc/fstab file and add nodev to the fourth field (mounting options) for the /dev/shm partition. See the fstab(5) manual page for more information. Run the following command to remount /dev/shm:

```
# mount -o remount,nodev /dev/shm
```

Impact

Resizing filesystems is a common activity in cloud-hosted servers. Separate filesystem partitions may prevent successful resizing, or may require the installation of additional tools solely for the purpose of

resizing operations. The use of these additional tools may introduce their own security considerations.

Notes

`/dev/shm` is not specified in `/etc/fstab` despite being mounted by default. The following line will implement the recommended `/dev/shm` mount options in `/etc/fstab`:

```
tmpfs /dev/shm tmpfs defaults,nodev,nosuid,noexec 0 0
```

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