

# 1.1.17 Ensure noexec option set on /dev/shm partition (Scored)

## Profile Applicability

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

## Description

The noexec mount option specifies that the filesystem cannot contain executable binaries.

## Rationale

Setting this option on a file system prevents users from executing programs from shared memory. This deters users from introducing potentially malicious software on the system.

## Audit

Run the following command and verify that the noexec 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 noexec 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,noexec /dev/shm
```

## Impact

/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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Permanent link:

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