Abstract

OpenJDK is a Red Hat offering on the Red Hat Enterprise Linux platform. The Configuring OpenJDK 11 on RHEL guide provides an overview of this product and explains how to configure the software.
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MAKING OPEN SOURCE MORE INCLUSIVE

Red Hat is committed to replacing problematic language in our code, documentation, and web properties. We are beginning with these four terms: master, slave, blacklist, and whitelist. Because of the enormity of this endeavor, these changes will be implemented gradually over several upcoming releases. For more details, see our CTO Chris Wright’s message.
Providing feedback on red hat documentation

We appreciate your feedback on our documentation. To provide feedback, you can highlight the text in a document and add comments.

This section explains how to submit feedback.

Prerequisites

- You are logged in to the Red Hat Customer Portal.
- In the Red Hat Customer Portal, view the document in Multi-page HTML format.

Procedure

To provide your feedback, perform the following steps:

1. Click the Feedback button in the top-right corner of the document to see existing feedback.

   NOTE

   The feedback feature is enabled only in the Multi-page HTML format.

2. Highlight the section of the document where you want to provide feedback.

3. Click the Add Feedback pop-up that appears near the highlighted text.

   A text box appears in the feedback section on the right side of the page.

4. Enter your feedback in the text box and click Submit.

   A documentation issue is created.

5. To view the issue, click the issue tracker link in the feedback view.
CHAPTER 1. INTERACTIVELY SELECTING A SYSTEM-WIDE OPENJDK VERSION ON RHEL

If you have multiple versions of OpenJDK installed on RHEL, you can interactively select the default OpenJDK version to use system-wide.

NOTE

If you do not have root privileges, you can select a OpenJDK version by configuring the JAVA_HOME environment variable.

Prerequisites

- You must have root privileges on the system.
- Multiple versions of OpenJDK were installed using the yum package manager.

Procedure

1. View the OpenJDK versions installed on the system.
   
   `$ yum list installed "java***"`

   A list of installed Java packages appears.

   ```
   Installed Packages
   java-1.8.0-openjdk.x86_64  1:1.8.0.242.b08-0.el8_1  @rhel-8-appstream-rpms
   java-1.8.0-openjdk-headless.x86_64  1:1.8.0.242.b08-0.el8_1  @rhel-8-appstream-rpms
   java-11-openjdk.x86_64  1:11.0.9.10-0.el8_1  @rhel-8-appstream-rpms
   java-11-openjdk-headless.x86_64  1:11.0.9.10-0.el8_1  @rhel-8-appstream-rpms
   javapackages-filesystem.noarch  5.3.0-1.module+el8+2447+6f56d9a6  @rhel-8-appstream-rpms
   ```

2. Display the OpenJDK versions that can be used for a specific java command and select the one to use:

   `$ sudo alternatives --config java`

   There are 2 programs which provide 'java'.

   ```
   Selection Command
   -----------------------------------------------
   * 1  java-1.8.0-openjdk.x86_64 (/usr/lib/jvm/java-1.8.0-openjdk-1.8.0.232.b09-0.el8_0.x86_64/jre/bin/java)
   + 2  java-11-openjdk.x86_64 (/usr/lib/jvm/java-11-openjdk-11.0.9.10-0.el8_0.x86_64/bin/java)
   ```

   Enter to keep the current selection[+], or type selection number: 1

- The current system-wide OpenJDK version is marked with an asterisk.
• The current OpenJDK version for the specified `java` command is marked with a plus sign.

3. Press Enter to keep the current selection or enter the Selection number of the OpenJDK version you want to select followed by the Enter key. The default OpenJDK version for the system is the selected version.

4. Verify that the chosen binary is selected.

   `$ java -version
   openjdk version "11.0.9" 2020-10-15 LTS
   OpenJDK Runtime Environment 18.9 (build 11.0.9+10-LTS)
   OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM 18.9 (build 11.0.9+10-LTS, mixed mode, sharing)`

   **NOTE**

   This procedure configures the `java` command. Then `javac` command can be set up in a similar way, but it operates independently.

If you have OpenJDK installed, alternatives provides more possible selections. In particular, the `javac` master alternative switches many binaries provided by the `--devel` sub-package.

Even if you have OpenJDK installed, `java` (and other JRE masters) and `javac` (and other OpenJDK masters) still operate separately, so you can have different selections for JRE and JDK. The `alternatives --config java` command affects the `jre` and its associated slaves.

If you want to change OpenJDK, use the `javac alternatives` command. The `--config javac` utility configures the `SDK` and related slaves. To see all possible masters, use `alternatives --list` and check all of the `java`, `javac`, `jre`, and `sdk` masters.
CHAPTER 2. NON-INTERACTIVELY SELECTING A SYSTEM-WIDE OPENJDK VERSION ON RHEL

If you have multiple versions of OpenJDK installed on RHEL, you can select the default OpenJDK version to use system-wide in a non-interactive way. This is useful for administrators who have root privileges on a Red Hat Enterprise Linux system and need to switch the default OpenJDK on many systems in an automated way.

**NOTE**

If you do not have root privileges, you can select a OpenJDK version by configuring the `JAVA_HOME` environment variable.

**Prerequisites**

- You must have root privileges on the system.
- Multiple versions of OpenJDK were installed using the `yum` package manager.

**Procedure**

1. Select the major OpenJDK version to switch to. For example, for OpenJDK 11, use `java-11-openjdk`.

   ```
   # PKG_NAME=java-11-openjdk
   # JAVA_TO_SELECT=$(alternatives --display java | grep "family $PKG_NAME" | cut -d' ' -f1)
   # alternatives --set java $JAVA_TO_SELECT
   ```

2. Verify that the active OpenJDK version is the one you specified.

   ```
   $ java -version
   openjdk version "11.0.9" 2020-10-15 LTS
   OpenJDK Runtime Environment 18.9 (build 11.0.9+10-LTS)
   OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM 18.9 (build 11.0.9+10-LTS, mixed mode, sharing)
   ```
CHAPTER 3. SELECTING AN INSTALLED OPENJDK VERSION FOR A SPECIFIC APPLICATION

Some applications require a specific OpenJDK version to run. If multiple versions of OpenJDK are installed on the system using the `yum` package manager or portable bundle, you can select a OpenJDK version for each application where necessary by setting the value of the `JAVA_HOME` environment variable or using a wrapper script.

Prerequisites

- Multiple versions of OpenJDK installed on the machine.
- Ensure that the application you want to run is installed.

Procedure

1. Set the `JAVA_HOME` environment variable. For example, if OpenJDK 11 was installed using `yum`:

   ```bash
   $ JAVA_HOME=/usr/lib/jvm/java-11-openjdk
   ```

   **NOTE**

   The symbolic link `java-11-openjdk` is controlled by the `alternatives` command.

2. Do one of the following:

   - Launch the application using the default, system-wide configuration:

     ```bash
     $ mvn --version
     Apache Maven 3.5.4 (Red Hat 3.5.4-5)
     Maven home: /usr/share/maven
     Java version: 11.0.9, vendor: Oracle Corporation, runtime: /usr/lib/jvm/java-11-openjdk-11.0.9.10-0.el8_0.x86_64/jre
     Default locale: en_US, platform encoding: UTF-8
     OS name: "linux", version: "4.18.0-144.el8.x86_64", arch: "amd64", family: "unix"
     ```

   - Launch the application specifying the `JAVA_HOME` variable:

     ```bash
     $ JAVA_HOME=/usr/lib/jvm/java-11-openjdk mvn --version
     Apache Maven 3.5.4 (Red Hat 3.5.4-5)
     Maven home: /usr/share/maven
     Java version: 11.0.9, vendor: Oracle Corporation, runtime: /usr/lib/jvm/java-11-openjdk-11.0.9.10-0.el8_0.x86_64
     Default locale: en_US, platform encoding: UTF-8
     OS name: "linux", version: "4.18.0-144.el8.x86_64", arch: "amd64", family: "unix"
     ```
CHAPTER 4. SELECTING A SYSTEM-WIDE ARCHIVE
OPENJDK VERSION

If you have multiple versions of OpenJDK installed with the archive on RHEL, you can select a specific OpenJDK version to use system-wide.

Prerequisites

- Know the locations of the OpenJDK versions installed using the archive.

Procedure

To specify the OpenJDK version to use for a single session:

1. Configure JAVA_HOME with the path to the OpenJDK version you want used system-wide.
   ```bash
   $ export JAVA_HOME=/opt/jdk/jdk-11.0.9
   ```
2. Add $JAVA_HOME/bin to the PATH environment variable.
   ```bash
   $ export PATH="$JAVA_HOME/bin:$PATH"
   ```

To specify the OpenJDK version to use permanently for a single user, add these commands into ~/.bashrc:

```bash
export JAVA_HOME=/opt/jdk/jdk-11.0.9
export PATH="$JAVA_HOME/bin:$PATH"
```

To specify the OpenJDK version to use permanently for all users, add these commands into /etc/bashrc:

```bash
export JAVA_HOME=/opt/jdk/jdk-11.0.9
export PATH="$JAVA_HOME/bin:$PATH"
```

NOTE

If you do not want to redefine JAVA_HOME, add only the PATH command to bashrc, specifying the path to the Java binary. For example, `export PATH="/opt/jdk/jdk-11.0.9/bin:$PATH"`.

Additional resources

- Be aware of the exact meaning of JAVA_HOME. For more information, see Changes/Decouple system java setting from java command setting.
CHAPTER 5. CONFIGURING THE JAVA_HOME ENVIRONMENT VARIABLE ON RHEL

Some applications require you to set the JAVA_HOME environment variable so that they can find the OpenJDK installation.

Prerequisites

- Know where OpenJDK is installed on your system. For example, /opt/jdk/11.

Procedure

1. Set the value of JAVA_HOME.
   
   ```bash
   $ export JAVA_HOME=/opt/jdk/11
   ```

2. Verify that JAVA_HOME is set correctly.
   
   ```bash
   $ printenv | grep JAVA_HOME
   JAVA_HOME=/opt/jdk/11
   ```

   **NOTE**

   You can make the value of JAVA_HOME persistent by exporting the environment variable in ~/.bashrc for single users or /etc/bashrc for system wide settings.

Additional resources

- Be aware of the exact meaning of JAVA_HOME. For more information, see Changes/Decouple system java setting from java command setting.
OpenJDK can be configured to use a customized heap size.

Procedure

- Add the maximum heap size option to the `java` command when running your application.
  For example, to set the maximum heap size to 100 megabytes use the `-Xmx100m` option.

  $ java -Xmn100m <your-application>

Additional resources

- For more information about the `Xmx` option, see `-Xmxsize` in Java documentation.

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