Multipass Ubuntu VMs on demand

CONCEPTS

Multipass runs Ubuntu VMs on your host. Launch, use and throw them away in seconds.

Image Ubuntu release
↓ launch
Running instance
↓ stop
Stopped snapshots here
↓ delete
Deleted recoverable
↓ purge
Gone disk freed

Deleted instances are only hidden until you purge them; recover brings them back.

CREATE AND INSPECT

multipass launch [*<image>*] --name *<name>*
Create and start an instance

multipass launch --cpus *<n>* --memory *<size>* --disk *<size>*
Set the VM resources

multipass images
List available images

multipass list
List instances and their IPs

multipass info *<name>*
Show details of an instance

multipass list --format json
Machine-readable list

multipass info --all
Details of every instance

multipass launch --cloud-init *<file>*
Configure at first boot

multipass launch --mount *<host-dir>*:*<vm-dir>*
Mount a folder at launch

CREATE AND INSPECT (cont.)

multipass clone *<name>* --name *<new>*
Copy a stopped instance

ACCESS

multipass shell [*<name>*]
Open a shell in the instance

multipass exec *<name>* -- *<cmd>*
Run a command in the instance

LIFECYCLE

multipass stop *<name>*
Stop an instance

multipass start *<name>*
Start a stopped instance

multipass restart *<name>*
Restart an instance

multipass delete *<name>*
Delete (recoverable)

multipass purge
Permanently remove deleted instances

FILES

multipass transfer *<file>* *<name>*:*<path>*
Copy host file to instance

multipass transfer *<name>*:*<path>* *<dest>*
Copy instance file to host

multipass mount *<host-dir>* *<name>*:*<vm-dir>*
Share a host folder

SNAPSHOTS

multipass snapshot *<name>* --name *<snap>*
Snapshot a stopped instance

multipass restore *<name>*.*<snap>*
Roll back to a snapshot