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

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

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

ACCESS

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

ACCESS (cont.)

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

multipass exec <name> --working-directory <dir> -- <cmd>
Run in a given directory

LIFECYCLE

multipass stop <name>
Stop an instance

multipass start <name>
Start a stopped instance

multipass restart <name>
Restart an instance

multipass suspend <name>
Suspend, keeping memory state

multipass stop --all
Stop every instance

multipass delete <name>
Delete (recoverable)

multipass recover <name>
Bring back a deleted instance

multipass purge
Permanently remove deleted instances

multipass delete --purge <name>
Delete and purge at once

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

multipass unmount <name>[:<path>]
Remove a mount

SNAPSHOTS

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

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