

**NAME**

virt-login-shell – tool to execute a shell within a container

**SYNOPSIS**

**virt-login-shell** [*OPTION*]

**DESCRIPTION**

The **virt-login-shell** program is a setuid shell that is used to join an LXC container that matches the user's name. If the container is not running, **virt-login-shell** will attempt to start the container. **virt-login-shell** is not allowed to be run by root. Normal users will get added to a container that matches their username, if it exists, and they are configured in **/etc/libvirt/virt-login-shell.conf**.

The basic structure of most **virt-login-shell** usage is:

```
virt-login-shell
```

**OPTIONS**

**-c CMD**

Instruct the shell to run CMD instead of presenting an interactive shell prompt.

**-h, --help**

Display command line help usage then exit.

**-V, --version**

Display version information then exit.

**CONFIG**

By default, **virt-login-shell** will execute the **/bin/sh** program for the user. You can modify this behaviour by defining the shell variable in **/etc/libvirt/virt-login-shell.conf**. e.g.

```
shell = [ "/bin/bash" ]
```

If the **auto\_shell** config option is set then it will attempt to automatically detect the shell from **/etc/password** inside the container. This should only be done if the container has a separate **/etc** directory from the host, otherwise it will end up recursively invoking **virt-login-shell**. e.g.

```
auto_shell = 1
```

By default no users are allowed to use virt-login-shell, if you want to allow certain users to use virt-login-shell, you need to modify the allowed\_users variable in **/etc/libvirt/virt-login-shell.conf**. e.g.

```
allowed_users = [ "tom", "dick", "harry" ]
```

**EXIT STATUS**

**virt-login-shell** normally returns the exit status of the command it executed. If the command was killed by a signal, but that signal is not fatal to virt-login-shell, then it returns the signal number plus 128.

Exit status generated by **virt-login-shell** itself:

- **0** An option was used to learn more about this binary.
- **125** Generic error before attempting execution of the configured shell; for example, if libvirtd is not running.
- **126** The configured shell exists but could not be executed.

- **127** The configured shell could not be found.

**BUGS**

Please report all bugs you discover. This should be done via either:

1. the mailing list

*<https://libvirt.org/contact.html>*

2. the bug tracker

*<https://libvirt.org/bugs.html>*

Alternatively, you may report bugs to your software distributor / vendor.

**AUTHOR**

Daniel Walsh

**COPYRIGHT**

Copyright (C) 2013–2014 Red Hat, Inc., and the authors listed in the libvirt AUTHORS file.

**LICENSE**

**virt-login-shell** is distributed under the terms of the GNU LGPL v2+. This is free software; see the source for copying conditions. There is NO warranty; not even for MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE

**SEE ALSO**

virsh(1), *<https://libvirt.org/>*