

Procedures

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Service Decommissioning Checklist

Purpose

This checklist is to ensure that all aspects of an active service are decommissioned properly, completely, and in the correct order to prevent potential failures elsewhere in the system.

Steps

- Determine which monitoring systems need to be disabled, permanently and temporarily to prevent service outage notifications
- If this service has a MariaDB, PostgreSQL or otherwise database, remove its entry from the nixOS borgmatic config to prevent backup failure
- If this service is running in a Docker container, tear down its compose project. Otherwise stop the service and disable/remove its nixOS config. Push configuration change to `staging` branch

Do not push this change to `main` until testing that the configuration builds successfully

If this service is a docker-compose project, move its folder to `~/Containers/.retired-services`

- If this service is publicly exposed with a TLS cert, remove its entry from traefik's `acme.json` file to prevent unwanted cert renewals
- If remaining data is unwanted, clear all relevant files from the filesystem i.e. `/srv/<servicename>` and any relevant databases and secrets
- Push changes from `staging` to `main`
- If any related monitoring systems were temporarily put into maintenance mode, re-enable them in Uptime Kuma and Healthchecks

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- Shutdown/disable needed monitoring services

- Remove/disable borgmatic database backup entry from nixOS to prevent borgmatic failure
- Teardown compose project/remove nixOS service config, push change to `staging`
 - If docker-compose project, move to `~/Containers/.retired-services`
- Remove service's entry from traefik's `acme.json` file to prevent unwanted cert renewals
- If unneeded, clear all remaining files from the filesystem i.e. `/srv/<servicename>` and any relevant databases and secrets
- Push changes from `staging` to `main`
- Re-enable monitoring systems as needed

Service Provisioning Checklist

Purpose

This checklist is to ensure that all aspects of a new service are provisioned properly, completely, and in the correct order to prevent potential failures elsewhere in the system.

Steps

- Determine any potential impact to any other services; see things to look out for below
 - Is this service going to be running on app-01 or a different host?
 - Is it going to utilize SSO auth?
 - Is it going to need a database? Service files folder in /mnt/data/services on app-01?
 - Is it going to need any other secrets?
 - Does this service need to be monitored?
 - Does this service's data need to be backed up?
 - Exposed to the public internet?
 - Send pings to HealthChecks?
 - Utilizing a mailserver or ntfy to send notifications?
- Determine the most feasible deployment method
 - Docker container
 - nixOS module (preferred for reproducibility and programmatic configuration)

Check on repology.org to verify if the nixOS module is up to date with upstream before choosing to use the nixOS module

- If the service uses a database
 - Typically, I create databases whose names are the same as the service name e.g. for forgejo, the database name is forgejo
 - Create and store database secrets under Bitwarden Secrets Manager, using the following naming convention: `webservices.<service name>.db_pass`
 - Create a new branch in `Projects/ansible` from staging using the naming convention `databases.<service name>`

- Add an entry under the appropriate database server's `host_vars` file. Run the appropriate playbook to auto-provision that database
- If this service needs a folder in the filesystem, create that respective folder under `/mnt/data/services` and create a symlink to it from `/srv` such that the symlink's location is `/srv/<service name>`
- If this service is being provisioned using Docker
 - Follow Docker service provisioning procedure to create a docker-compose file and appropriate config and `.env` files
- If this service is being provisioned using a nixOS module
 - Write wrapper module as needed
 - Add the database secrets to the SOPS config. This will be used for both database access and borgmatic backups
 - Add a SOPS secrets config block to the host config running the service and pass to the module to prevent the secret being exposed in the store
- If this service needs to send pings to HealthChecks
 - Create a ping in the HealthChecks service
 - Configure the service to contact the specific endpoint provisioned with the check
- If this service needs to send notifications using ntfy
 - Create a channel if needed and set permissions
 - Create a token with the appropriate permissions, save it to SOPS if needed
 - Configure the service with the token
- If this service needs to send email notifications
 - Configure the email server and run a test using the SMTP relay credentials
- If this service has metrics that need to be scraped
 - Set a port that the grafana-alloy collector can poll
 - Add an alloy configuration under the service's module
- If this service needs to be monitored for uptime
 - Determine if this service has a specific health/up monitoring endpoint
 - Add a check for uptime-kuma but do not engage yet
- Test service on a separate testing VM if needed
- When the service is ready to deploy, push to `staging`
- Test that the nixOS config builds and starts successfully, or the docker-compose project starts normally
- Enable uptime-kuma service monitor

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Service Database Decommissioning Checklist

Purpose

This checklist is to ensure that all steps are taken to ensure that deleting a service database does not cause any disruption in other parts of the infrastructure.

Steps

- Determine any potential impact to any other services; see things to look out for below
 - Are any services dependent on this database, directly or indirectly?
 - Is the database backed up?
 - Is there a specific borg repo for this database?

Ensure this database's entry is deleted for borgmatic, otherwise the auto backup service will error out

- Delete the database's entry from nixOS, on the dbserver's default.nix config
 - Delete the database's secrets from sops-nix
 - Delete the name of the database if it is being backed up with the `borg-config` module
 - Push these changes to prod before continuing with the following steps
- Delete the database's entry from ansible
 - Delete the database's secrets from any SOPS files they may be stored in
 - Delete the database's entry from ansible, on the dbserver's host_vars config
- Ensure that the database's secrets are deleted everywhere
 - Delete database secrets from Bitwarden Secrets Manager after 1 year in the event that access is needed again
 - Delete entries of the database from any host_vars files in ansible, to stop it from re-provisioning
- `DROP` the database from the db server it resides on