

How to configure the ZNC irc bouncer (generic instructions)

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Introduction

ZNC is absolutely beneficial to anyone who does not wish to miss any exciting moments that take place within their IRC channels. ZNC will keep you logged into IRC, even when your computer is turned off (*as long as the machine that ZNC is on stays online*).

So, let's get started!

Prerequisites

To fully follow this walkthrough, you will need a few things:

1. Access to some form of VM not running on your machine, or a separate physical machine that is always on.
2. An IRC client on your main machine.
 - XChat, Konversation, etc.

Configure ZNC on the "always-on" system

1. Install ZNC (Requires EPEL if on RHEL):
 1. (example) `sudo yum install -y http://dl.fedoraproject.org/pub/epel/epel-release-latest-7.noarch.rpm`
 2. `sudo yum install -y znc`
2. Now, we enable, configure and start ZNC:
 1. `sudo systemctl enable znc`
 2. `sudo -u znc znc --makeconf`
 - Listen on port (1025 to 65534): **1025**
 - Listen using SSL (yes/no) [no]: **[Press ENTER]**

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- Listen using both IPv4 and IPv6 (yes/no) [yes]: **[Press ENTER]**
 - Username (alphanumeric): **<The Username you will use to log into the ZNC Interface>**
Example: **bob-znc-login**
 - Nick [<Username>]: **<Your IRC Nickname>**
 - Alternate nick [<Username_>]: **<Your IRC Nickname with an _>**
 - Ident [<Username>]: **<Anything, like "Superman">**
 - Real name [Got ZNC?]: **<Anything, like "Clark Kent">**
 - Bind host (optional): **[Press ENTER]**
 - Set up a network? (yes/no) [yes]: **no**
 - Launch ZNC now? (yes/no) [yes]: **[Press ENTER]**
3. Now, we configure your IRC settings through the ZNC interface!
 1. Open a Web Browser on your machine and go to **{znc-host-ip-address}:1025**
 2. In the top-right corner, log in with the username and password you set from step 2.2-4 above.
 3. Under *Global Modules*, click **Your Settings**.
 4. Scroll down under *Default Settings* and change *Buffer Size* to **100000**. (*Because 50 isn't enough*)
 5. Scroll down and click **Save and continue**.
 6. Under *Networks*, click **Add**.
 7. For *Network Name*, type something that identifies the network you are connecting to (freenode-network).
 8. For *Servers of this IRC network*, type the IRC network's hostname(s) that it connects to.
 9. Under *Modules*, place a checkmark next to:
 - **chansaver**
 - **keepnick**
 - **simple_away**
 10. Next to the *simple_away* module, type:
 - **-timer 5 I'm away**. (Feel free to change the "I'm away." message to your preference.)
 11. Click **Add Network and return**.

Configure your local IRC client to connect to your new IRC bouncer

Notice: This will be generically informative due to the many number of IRC clients. Most settings are the same.

1. For *Network Name*, type something that identifies the IRC network.
2. For *Server IP Address* and *Port*, type the IP address of your ZNC host and port of ZNC: **{znc-host-ip-address}:1025**
3. For *Password*, you will use your ZNC username, then a forwardslash, then the Network Name from step 3.7 above, then a colon, then your ZNC password from step 2.2-4 above. Example:
 - **bob-znc-login/freenode-network:mypassword**
4. At this point, add your 'Automatically Join' channels and connect to the newly added network, or join the network and then join your channels individually.
5. To test to see if logging is working properly, after joining an active channel, close your IRC client and wait 10 or so minutes.
6. Now, re-open your IRC client and connect back to the ZNC network you added and the channel should show back up with a buffer of what you missed.