Kernel Based Virtual Machine

KVM (for Kernel-based Virtual Machine) is a full virtualization solution for Linux on x86 hardware containing virtualization extensions (Intel VT or AMD-V). It consists of a loadable kernel module, kvm.ko, that provides the core virtualization infrastructure and a processor specific module, kvm-intel.ko or kvm-amd.ko. KVM also requires a modified QEMU although work is underway to get the required changes upstream.

Using KVM, one can run multiple virtual machines running unmodified Linux or Windows images. Each virtual machine has private virtualized hardware: a network card, disk, graphics adapter, etc.

The kernel component of KVM is included in mainline Linux, as of 2.6.20.

http://packages.debian.org/de/lenny/linux-image-2.6.26-2-486

Lenny 2.6.26

Paket: linux-image-2.6.26-2-486

Links für linux-image-2.6.26-2-486

Under Lenny, the Debian package name is 'kvm'. Under Squeeze, it is 'qemukvm'. See README.Debian.gz in the qemu-kvm package on Squeeze for an explanation of the name change. Install the correct kvm package with apt-get or aptitude, e.g. using this command:

aptitude install qemu-kvm libvirt-bin

http://wiki.debian.org/KVM

The daemon libvirt-bin daemon will start automatically at boot time and load the appropriate kvm modules, **kvm-amd or kvm-intel**, which are shipped with the Linux kernel Debian package. If you intend create VMs from the command-line, install virtinst.

In order to be able to manage virtual machines as regular user you should put this user into the libvirt