

Killing a Hung Virtual Console

This tip shows you how to restore a hung virtual console (without rebooting). To do this, you need the lsof tool.

Using lsof, find the login processes of the hung console.

Code Listing 1: Example: (hung console is /dev/vc/3)

```
# lsof /dev/vc/3
COMMAND  PID  USER  FD  TYPE DEVICE SIZE NODE NAME
login    7114 root   0u   CHR  4,3     17 /dev/vc/3
login    7114 root   1u   CHR  4,3     17 /dev/vc/3
login    7114 root   2u   CHR  4,3     17 /dev/vc/3
zsh      30630 david  0u   CHR  4,3     17 /dev/vc/3
zsh      30630 david  1u   CHR  4,3     17 /dev/vc/3
zsh      30630 david  2u   CHR  4,3     17 /dev/vc/3
zsh      30630 david 10u   CHR  4,3     17 /dev/vc/3
```

Kill the processes associated with this login and the console should respawn.

Code Listing 2: Killing the virtual console processes

```
# kill -9 7114 30630
```

From <http://www.gentoo.org/news/en/gwn/20031124-newsletter.xml>