

## 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>

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