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NET-45

420-635-AB-Network Installation and Administration I

Assignment 2

Handed to

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Date

2025-04-10

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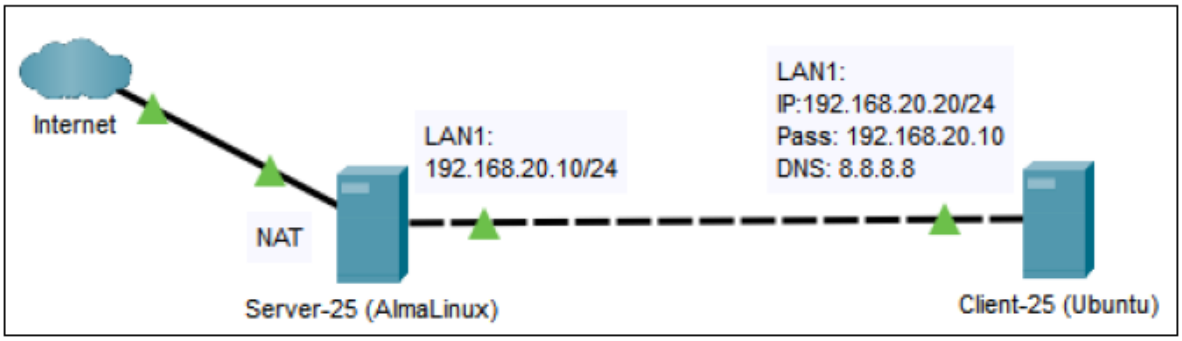


Introduction – Deploying Real-World Network Services with Linux

In this assignment, we go beyond basic configuration and step into the world of real-world network service deployment. Building on the foundation set in Assignment 1, we now install and configure three essential services on a Linux server: DNS, DHCP, and FTP. These services are critical for any functioning network—handling everything from hostname resolution and IP address assignment to file sharing between systems.

Finally, we deploy an FTP server with anonymous upload capabilities, simulating a public-facing file-sharing service. While many modern networks now rely on SFTP or cloud-based storage, FTP remains widely used in legacy systems and embedded environments. Configuring it helps us understand how to manage file permissions, control user access, and enable secure data transfer—skills that remain highly relevant in many IT environments.

This lab mirrors the kind of hands-on work done by professionals in roles such as IT Support Specialists, System Administrators, and Network Administrators. Learning to deploy and manage services like BIND, DHCPd, and vsFTPd doesn't just deepen our understanding—it prepares us for the demands of real IT environments.

The skills we develop here directly contribute to industry certifications like **CompTIA Linux+** and **Red Hat Certified System Administrator (RHCSA)**, both of which are recognized stepping stones into IT careers. By completing this lab, we're not only practicing commands—we're laying the groundwork for professional readiness and future job opportunities in Linux-based system administration.

Assignment 2

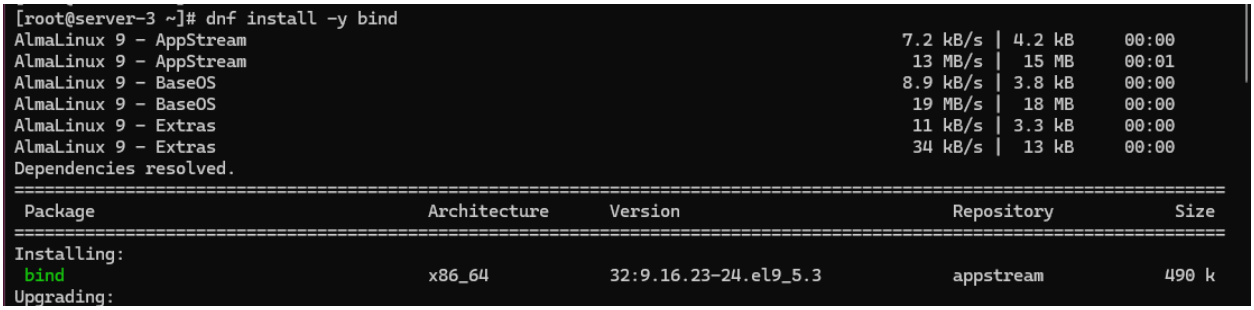
Part 1:

DNS Configuration with BIND (AlmaLinux Server)

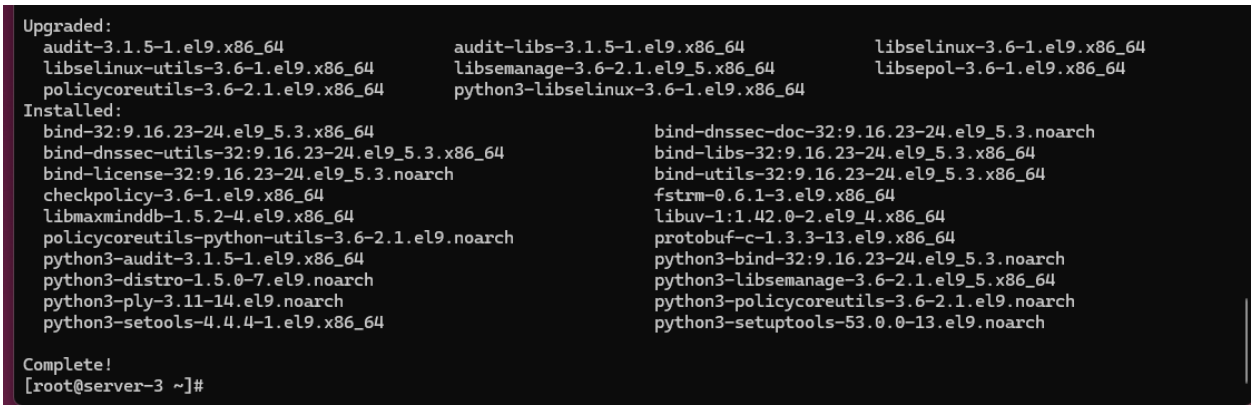
On AlmaLinux Server:

1. Install BIND on AlmaLinux

dnf install -y bind



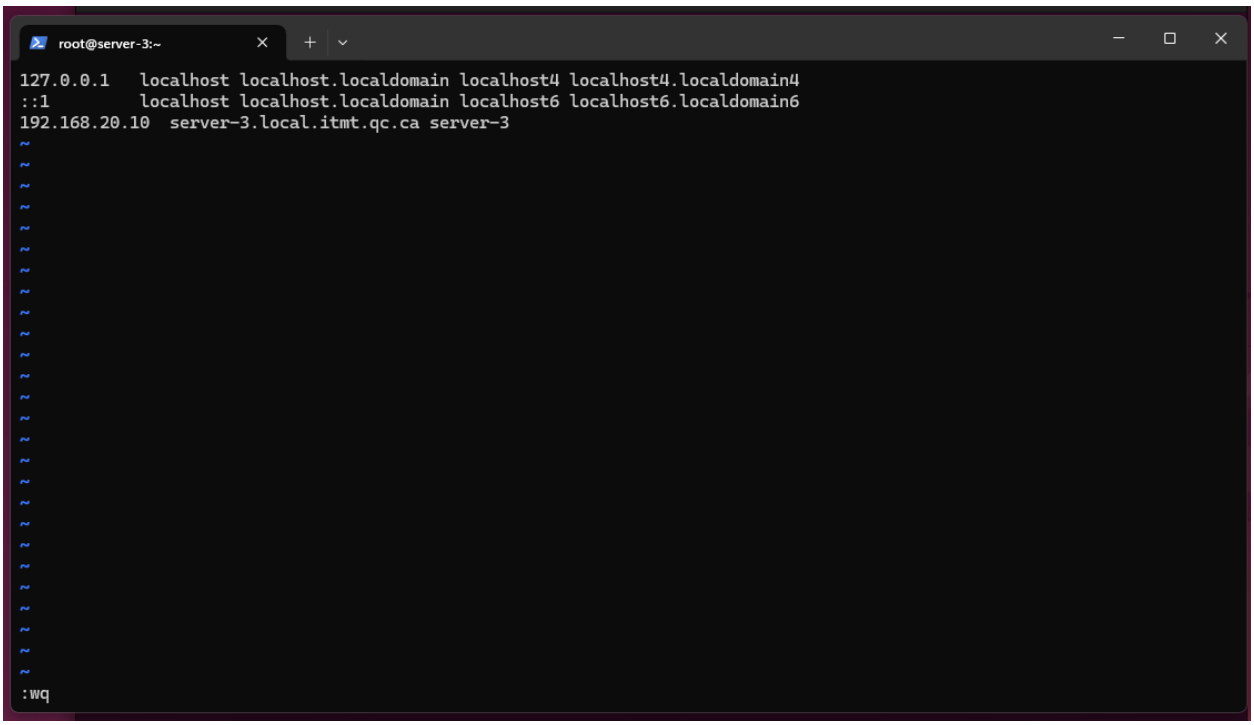
```
[root@server-3 ~]# dnf install -y bind
AlmaLinux 9 - AppStream                                  7.2 kB/s | 4.2 kB     00:00
AlmaLinux 9 - AppStream                                   13 MB/s |  15 MB     00:01
AlmaLinux 9 - BaseOS                                     8.9 kB/s | 3.8 kB     00:00
AlmaLinux 9 - BaseOS                                      19 MB/s |  18 MB     00:00
AlmaLinux 9 - Extras                                      11 kB/s | 3.3 kB     00:00
AlmaLinux 9 - Extras                                      34 kB/s |  13 kB     00:00
Dependencies resolved.
================================================================================
 Package                 Architecture      Version                  Repository      Size
================================================================================
Installing:
 bind                    x86_64            32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3    appstream      490 k
Upgrading:
```



```
Upgraded:
  audit-3.1.5-1.el9.x86_64              audit-libs-3.1.5-1.el9.x86_64          libselinux-3.6-1.el9.x86_64
  libselinux-utils-3.6-1.el9.x86_64     libsemanage-3.6-2.1.el9_5.x86_64       libsepol-3.6-1.el9.x86_64
  policycoreutils-3.6-2.1.el9.x86_64    python3-libselinux-3.6-1.el9.x86_64
Installed:
  bind-32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3.x86_64                    bind-dnssec-doc-32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3.noarch
  bind-dnssec-utils-32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3.x86_64       bind-libs-32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3.x86_64
  bind-license-32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3.noarch            bind-utils-32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3.x86_64
  checkpolicy-3.6-1.el9.x86_64                         fstrm-0.6.1-3.el9.x86_64
  libmaxminddb-1.5.2-4.el9.x86_64                      libuv-1:1.42.0-2.el9_4.x86_64
  policycoreutils-python-utils-3.6-2.1.el9.noarch      protobuf-c-1.3.3-13.el9.x86_64
  python3-audit-3.1.5-1.el9.x86_64                     python3-bind-32:9.16.23-24.el9_5.3.noarch
  python3-distro-1.5.0-7.el9.noarch                    python3-libsemanage-3.6-2.1.el9_5.x86_64
  python3-ply-3.11-14.el9.noarch                       python3-policycoreutils-3.6-2.1.el9.noarch
  python3-setools-4.4.4-1.el9.x86_64                   python3-setuptools-53.0.0-13.el9.noarch

Complete!
[root@server-3 ~]#
```

2. Add the new alias to the /etc/hosts file

```
[root@server-3 ~]# vim /etc/hosts
[root@server-3 ~]#
```



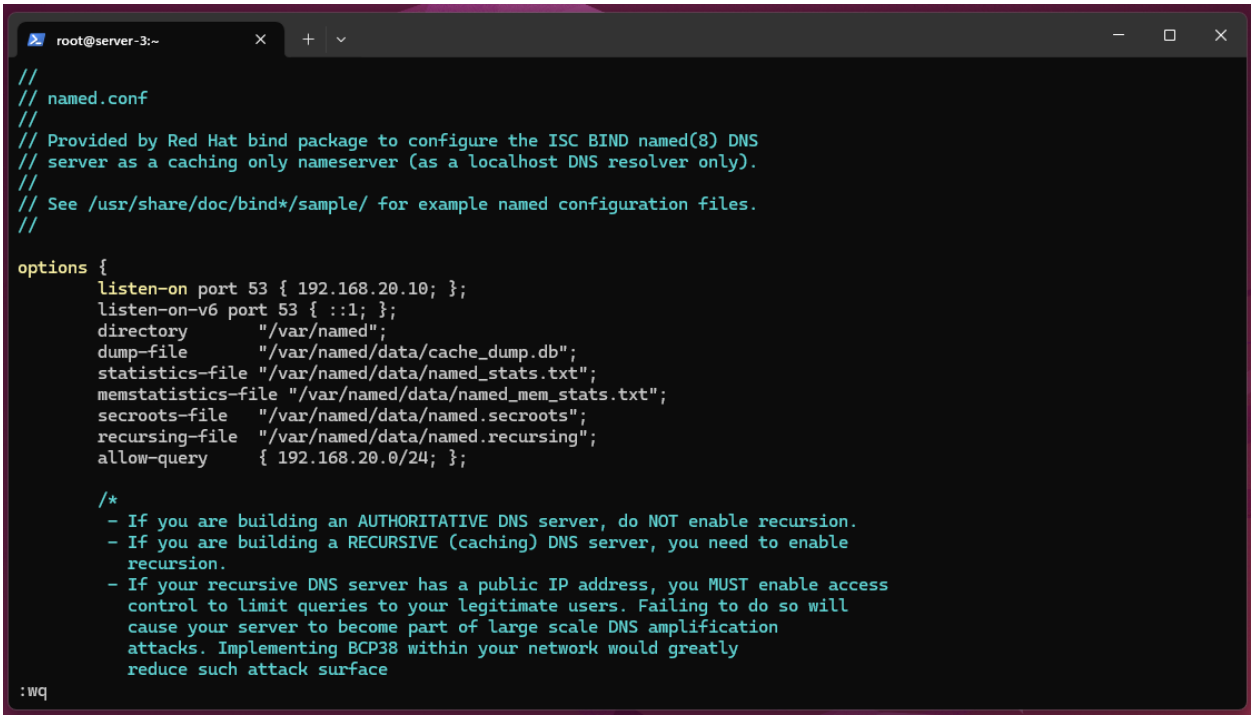
3. Configure BIND to Listen on Specific IP and Allow Queries

Edit the configuration file:

```
vim /etc/named.conf
```

Under the options section, add or modify:

```
listen-on port 53 { 192.168.20.10; };
allow-query { 192.168.20.0/24; };
```



4. Check BIND Configuration Syntax

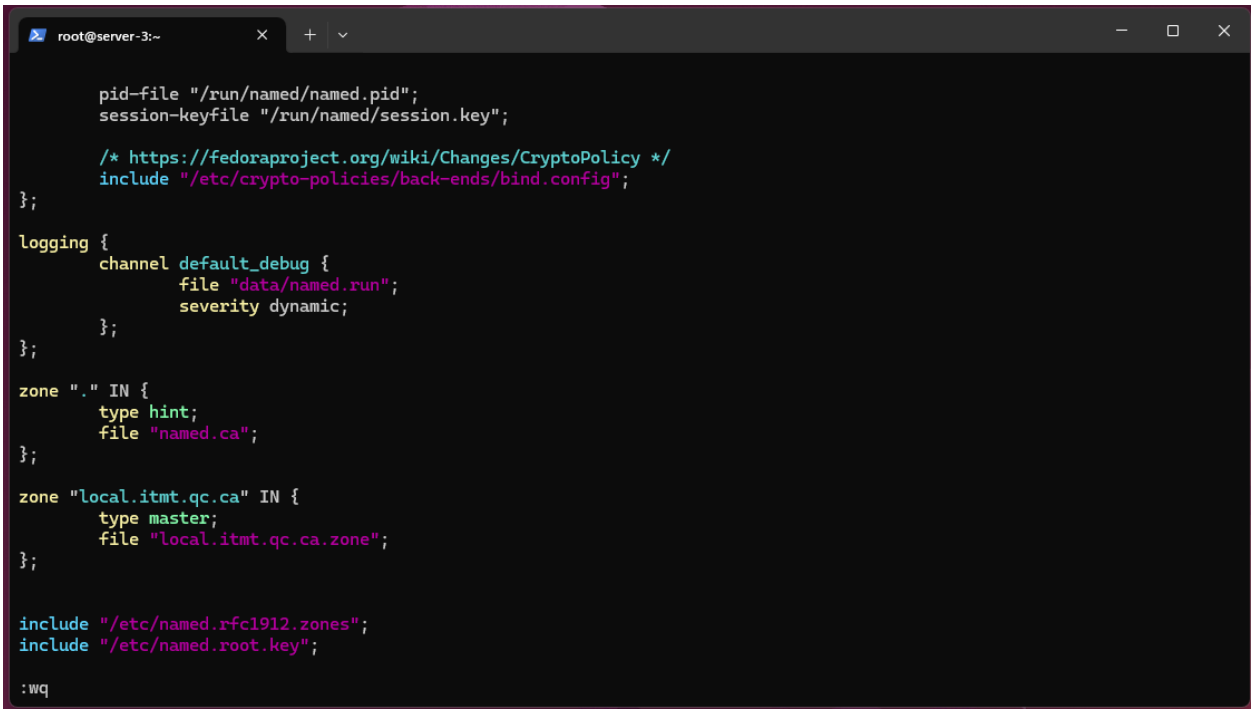
named-checkconf

(*No output means the syntax is correct*)

5. Configure the Forward Master DNS Zone

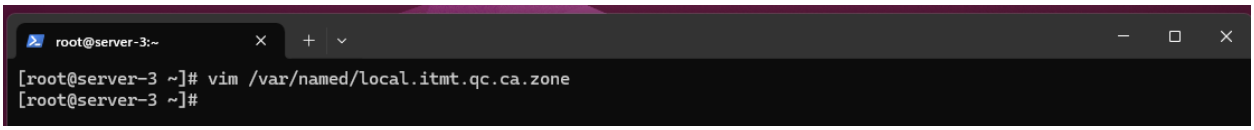
In /etc/named.conf, add the following below the existing zones:

```
zone "local.itmt.qc.ca" IN {
   type master;
   file "local.itmt.qc.ca.zone";
};
```



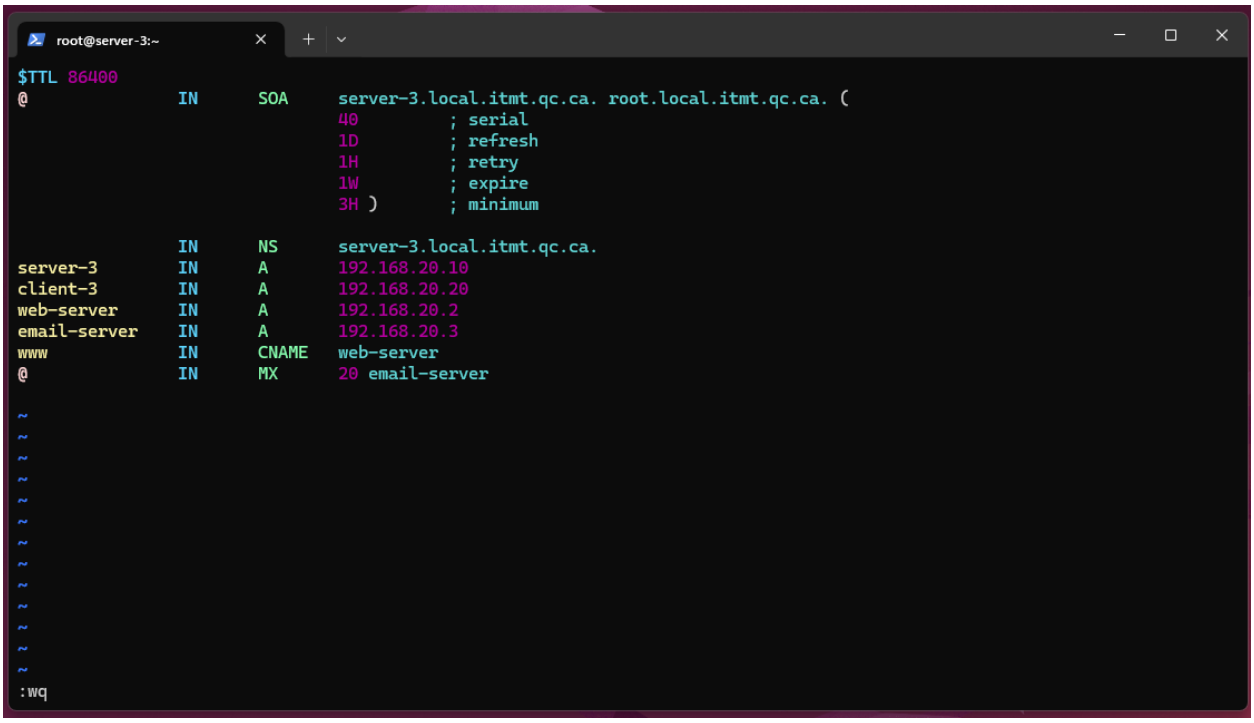
6. Create the Forward Zone File

vim /var/named/local.itmt.qc.ca.zone



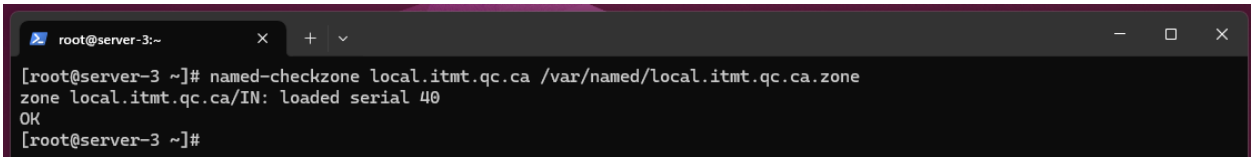
Add the following content:

```
$TTL 86400
@ IN SOA server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca. root.local.itmt.qc.ca. (
    40 ; serial
    1D ; refresh
    1H ; retry
    1W ; expire
    3H ) ; minimum

            IN NS server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca.
server-3    IN A 192.168.20.10
client-3    IN A 192.168.20.20
web-server IN A 192.168.20.2
email-server IN A 192.168.20.3
www          IN CNAME web-server
@            IN MX 20 email-server
```



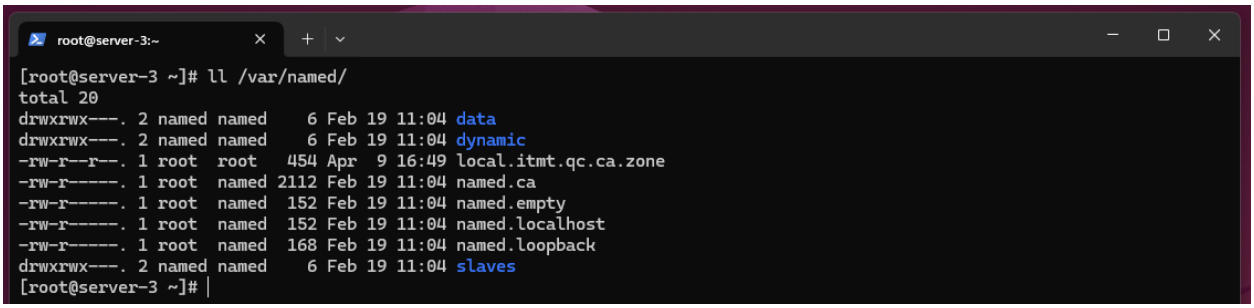
7. Check Forward Zone File Syntax

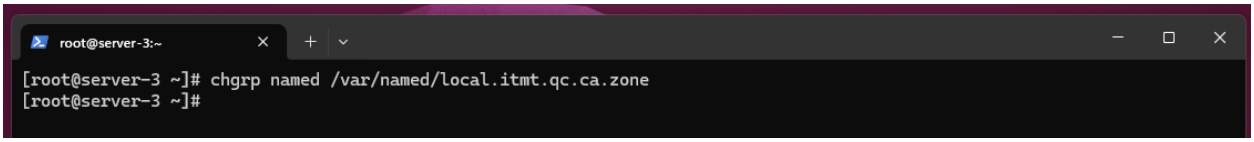
named-checkzone local.itmt.qc.ca /var/named/local.itmt.qc.ca.zone

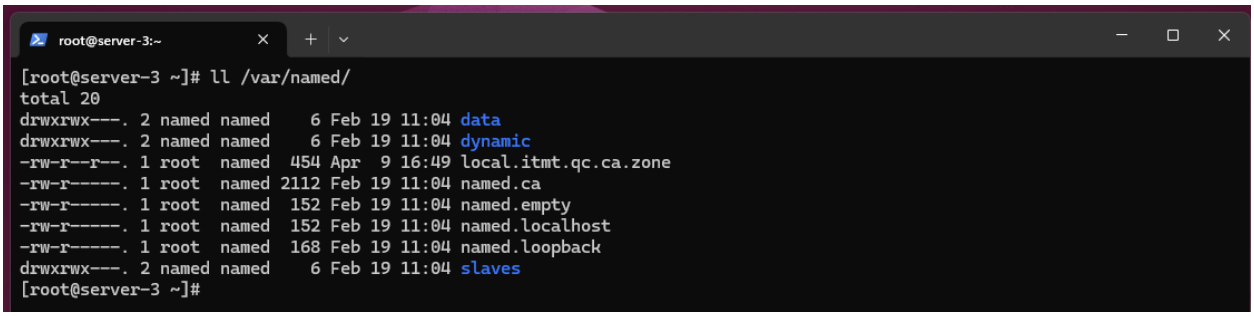


8. Set Correct Ownership on Zone File

chgrp named /var/named/local.itmt.qc.ca.zone



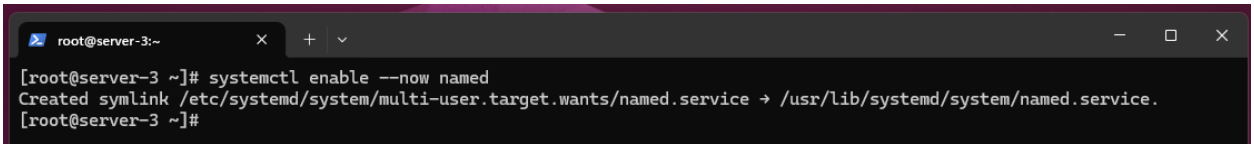


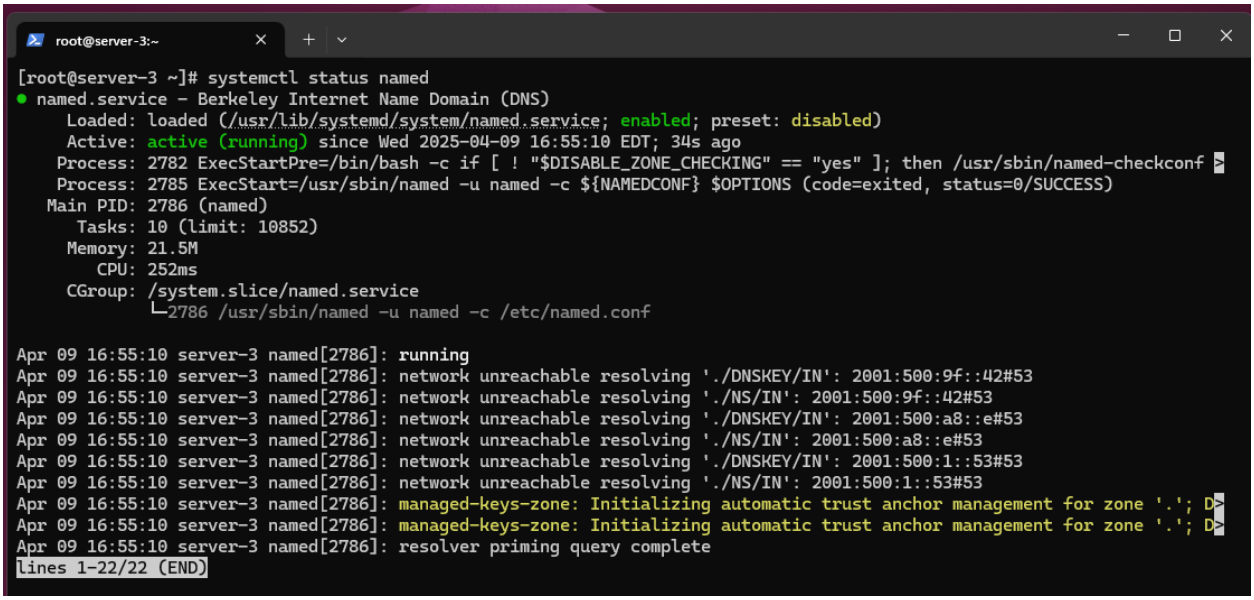


9. Start and Enable the DNS Server

systemctl enable --now named

systemctl status named

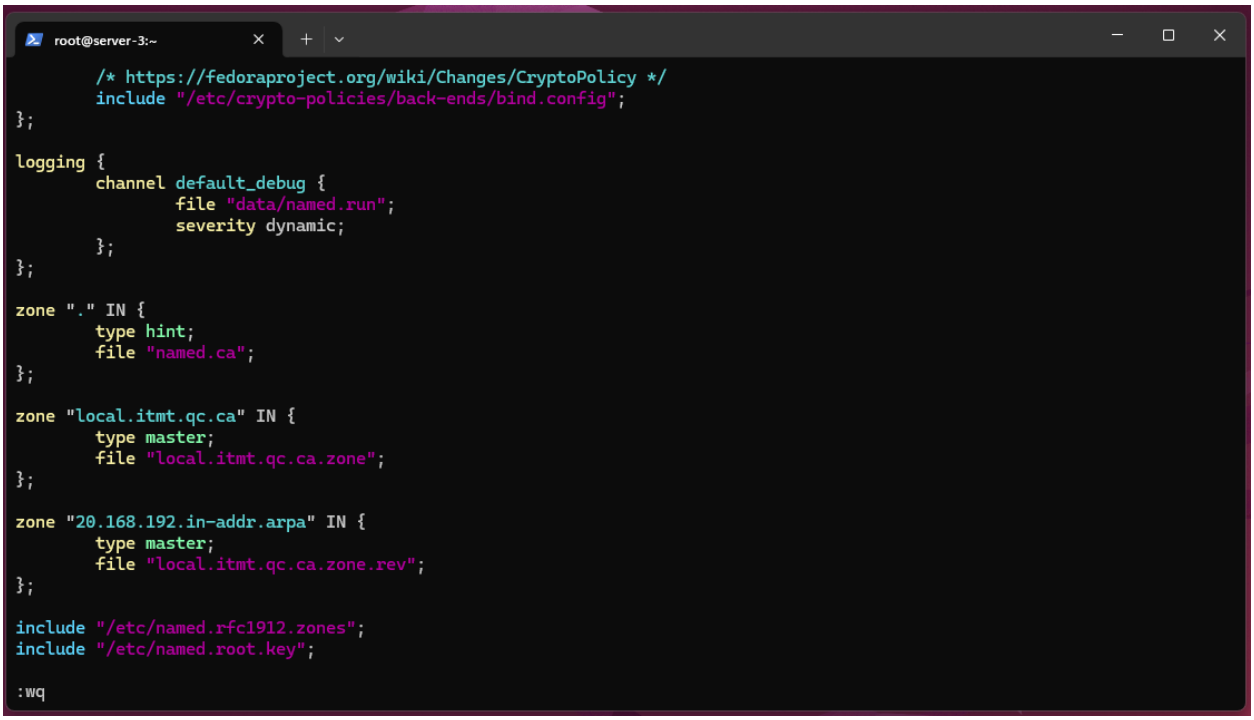




10. Configure the Reverse Master DNS Zone

Edit /etc/named.conf and add below the forward zone:

```
zone "20.168.192.in-addr.arpa" IN {
    type master;
    file "local.itmt.qc.ca.zone.rev";
};
```

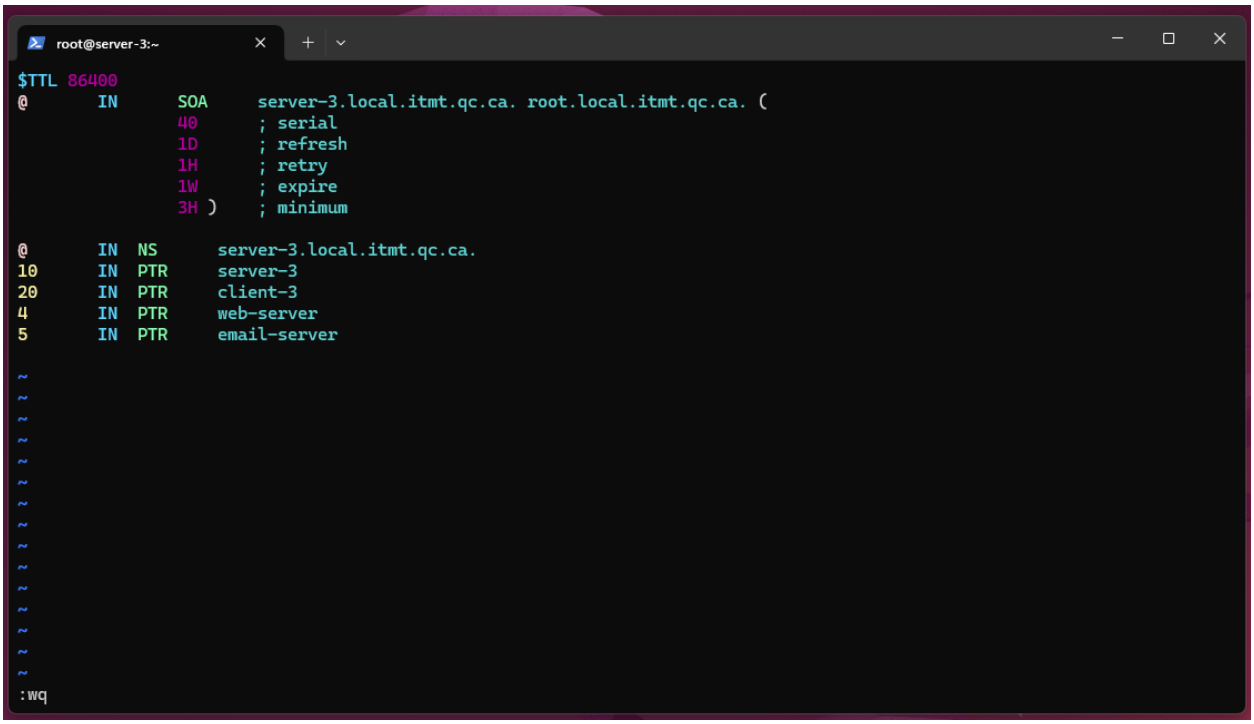


11. Create the Reverse Zone File

vim /var/named/local.itmt.qc.ca.zone.rev

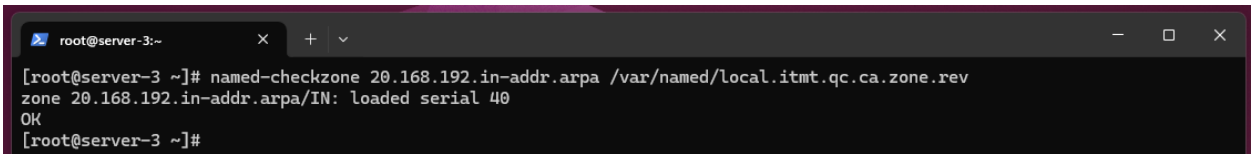
Add the following content:

```
$TTL 86400
@ IN SOA server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca. root.local.itmt.qc.ca. (
   40 ; serial
   1D ; refresh
   1H ; retry
   1W ; expire
   3H ) ; minimum

@          IN NS server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca.
10       IN PTR server-3
20       IN PTR client-3
4       IN PTR web-server
5       IN PTR email-server
```



12. Check Reverse Zone File Syntax

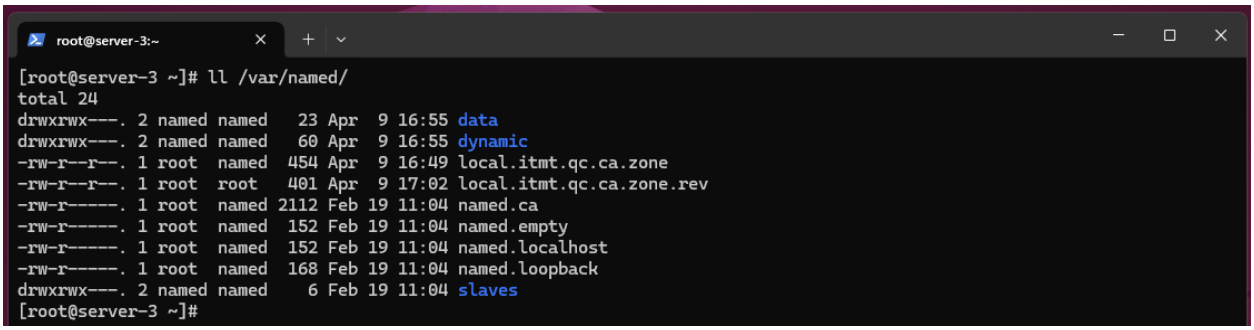
named-checkzone 20.168.192.in-addr.arpa /var/named/local.itmt.qc.ca.zone.rev

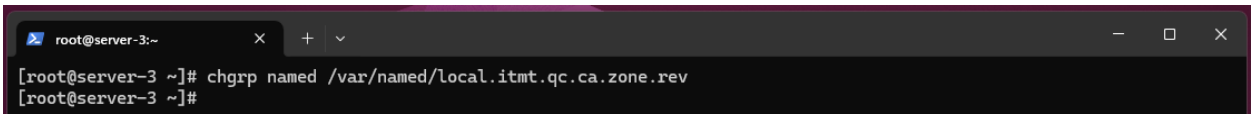


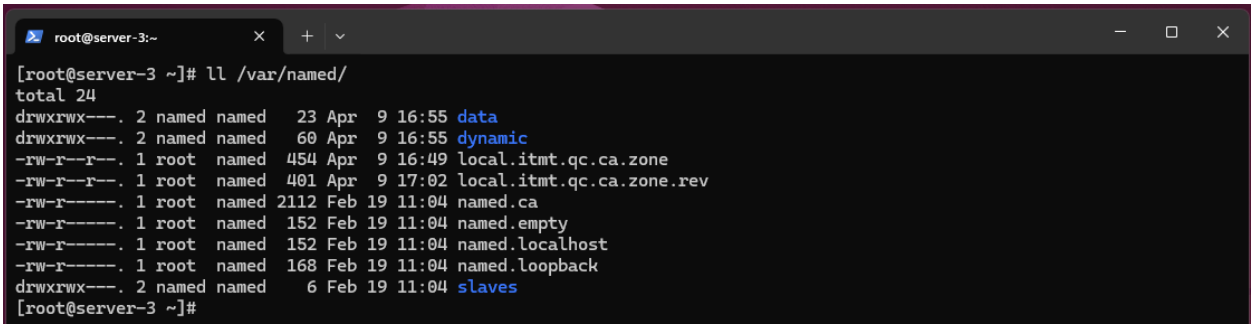
---

13. Set Correct Ownership on Reverse Zone File

chgrp named /var/named/local.itmt.qc.ca.zone.rev





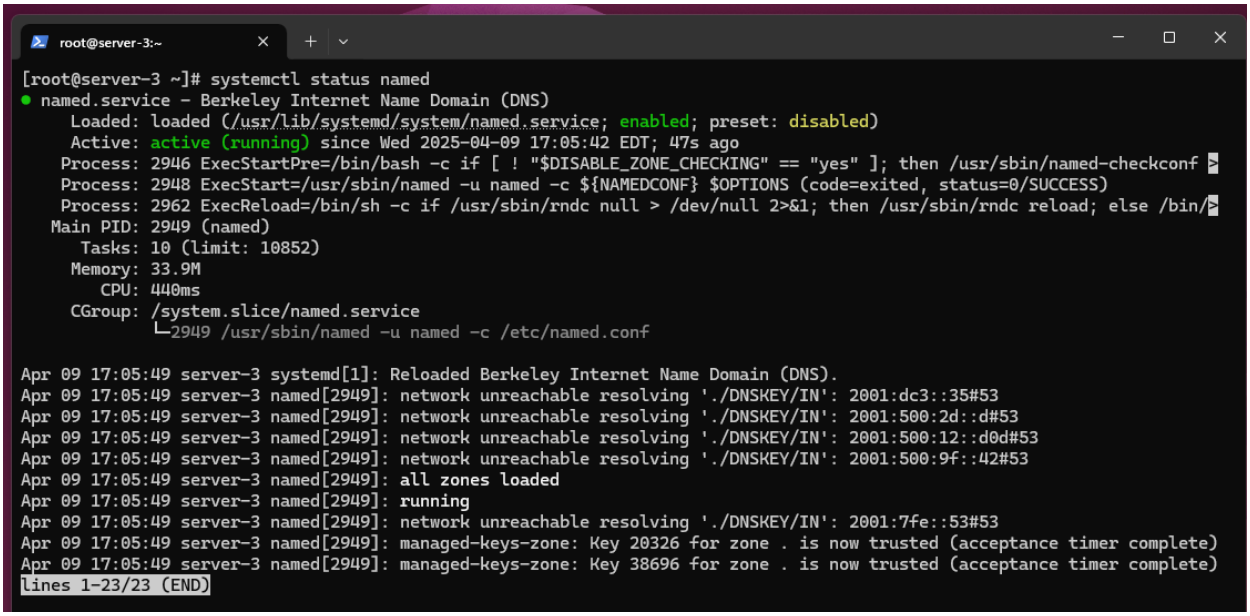


14. Restart and Reload BIND

systemctl restart named

systemctl reload named

systemctl status named



DNS Client Configuration

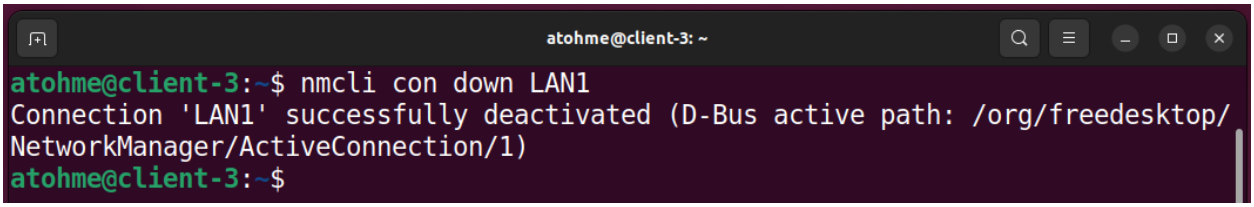
On Ubuntu Client:

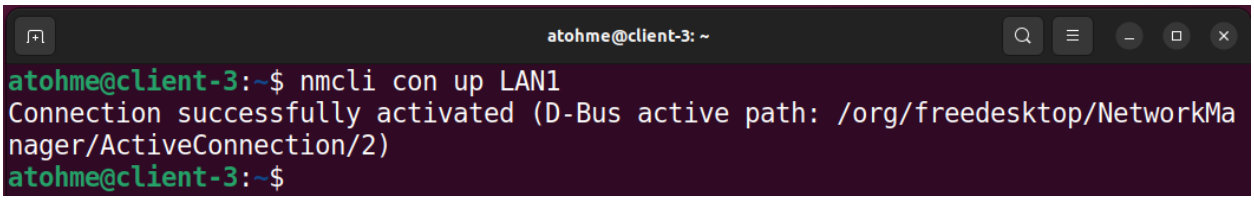
1. Disable Automatic DNS from NetworkManager

nmcli con mod LAN1 ipv4.ignore-auto-dns yes

nmcli con down LAN1

nmcli con up LAN1



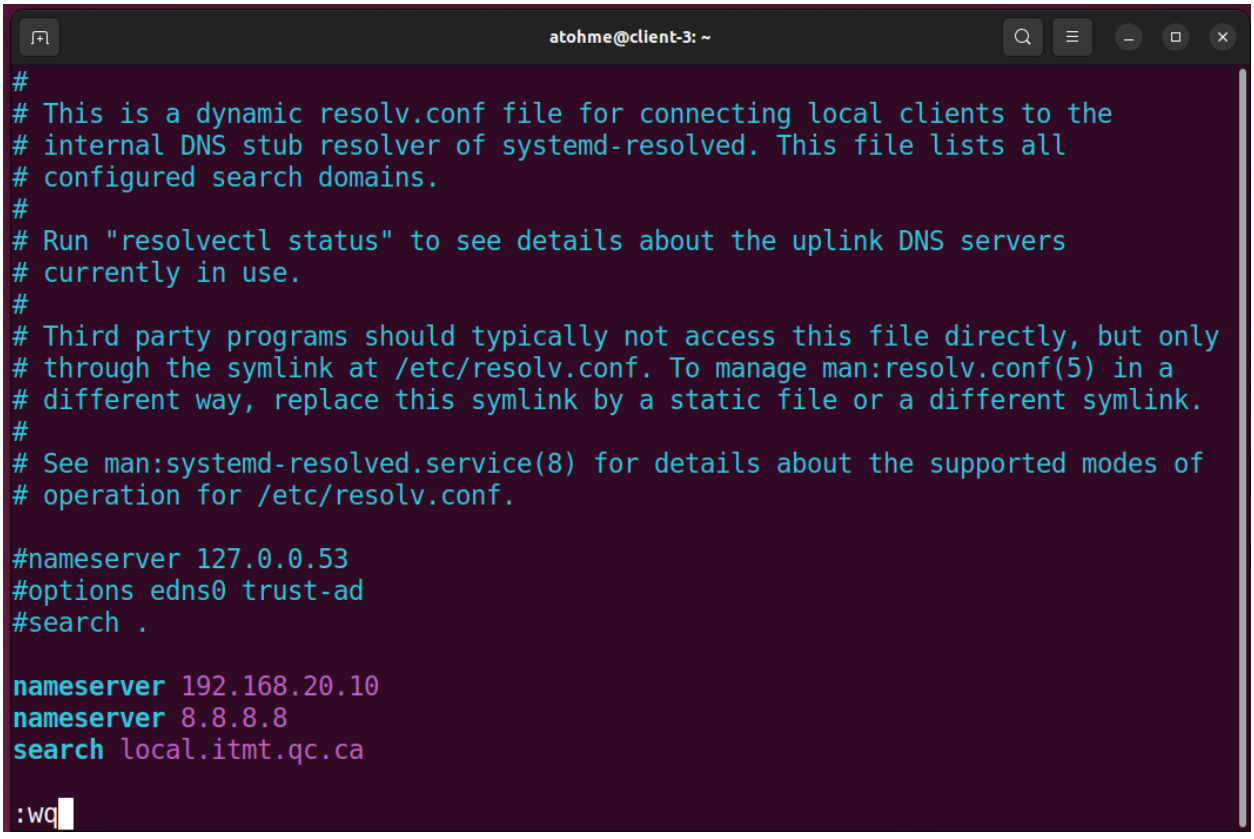


2. Manually Set DNS Servers

sudo vim /etc/resolv.conf

Add the following:

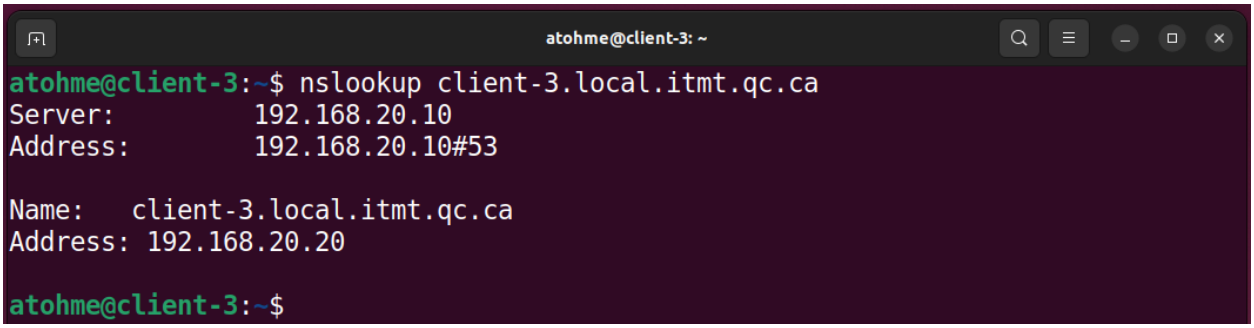
nameserver 192.168.20.10
nameserver 8.8.8.8
search local.itmt.qc.ca

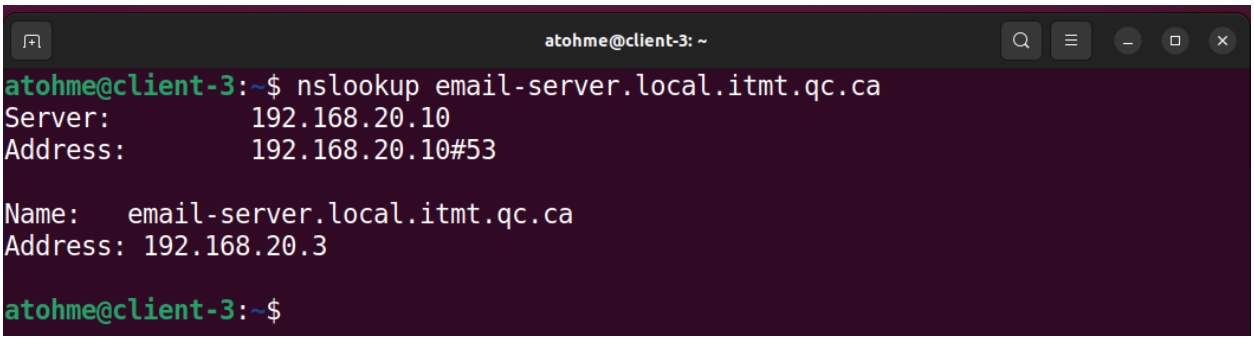


3. Test the DNS Server

Using nslookup:

nslookup server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca
nslookup client-3.local.itmt.qc.ca
nslookup email-server.local.itmt.qc.ca



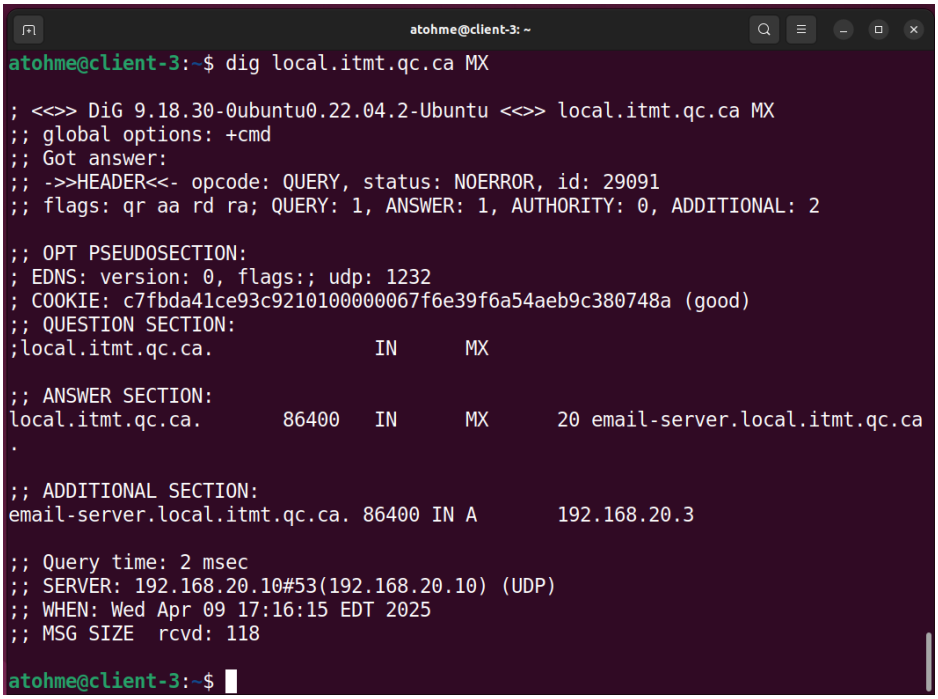


Using dig:

dig server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca
dig -x 192.168.20.10
dig local.itmt.qc.ca MX

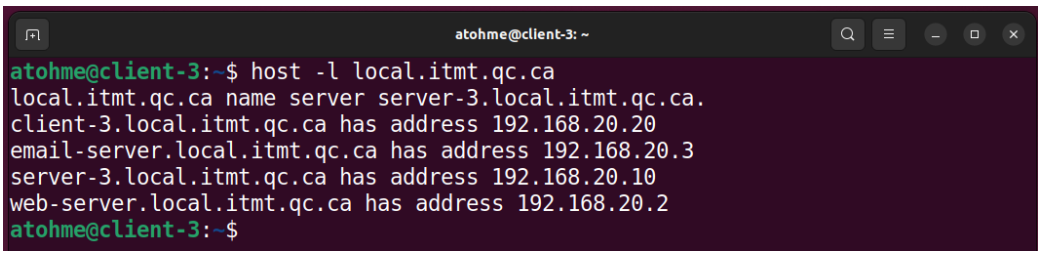
```
atohme@client-3: ~
atohme@client-3:~$ dig server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca

; <<>> DiG 9.18.30-0ubuntu0.22.04.2-Ubuntu <<>> server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 51282
;; flags: qr aa rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 1232
; COOKIE: 0dd11eeda702c5a90100000067f6e34b6ba5d8e11a6e397a (good)
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca.     IN      A

;; ANSWER SECTION:
server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca. 86400 IN     A       192.168.20.10

;; Query time: 3 msec
;; SERVER: 192.168.20.10#53(192.168.20.10) (UDP)
;; WHEN: Wed Apr 09 17:14:51 EDT 2025
;; MSG SIZE  rcvd: 98

atohme@client-3:~$
```

```
atohme@client-3: ~
atohme@client-3:~$ dig -x 192.168.20.10

; <<>> DiG 9.18.30-0ubuntu0.22.04.2-Ubuntu <<>> -x 192.168.20.10
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 33046
;; flags: qr aa rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 1232
; COOKIE: acb0b05de75fefa90100000067f6e377feccc2876effa46f (good)
;; QUESTION SECTION:
;10.20.168.192.in-addr.arpa.    IN      PTR

;; ANSWER SECTION:
10.20.168.192.in-addr.arpa. 86400 IN    PTR     server-3.20.168.192.in-addr.arpa
.

;; Query time: 4 msec
;; SERVER: 192.168.20.10#53(192.168.20.10) (UDP)
;; WHEN: Wed Apr 09 17:15:35 EDT 2025
;; MSG SIZE  rcvd: 106

atohme@client-3:~$
```



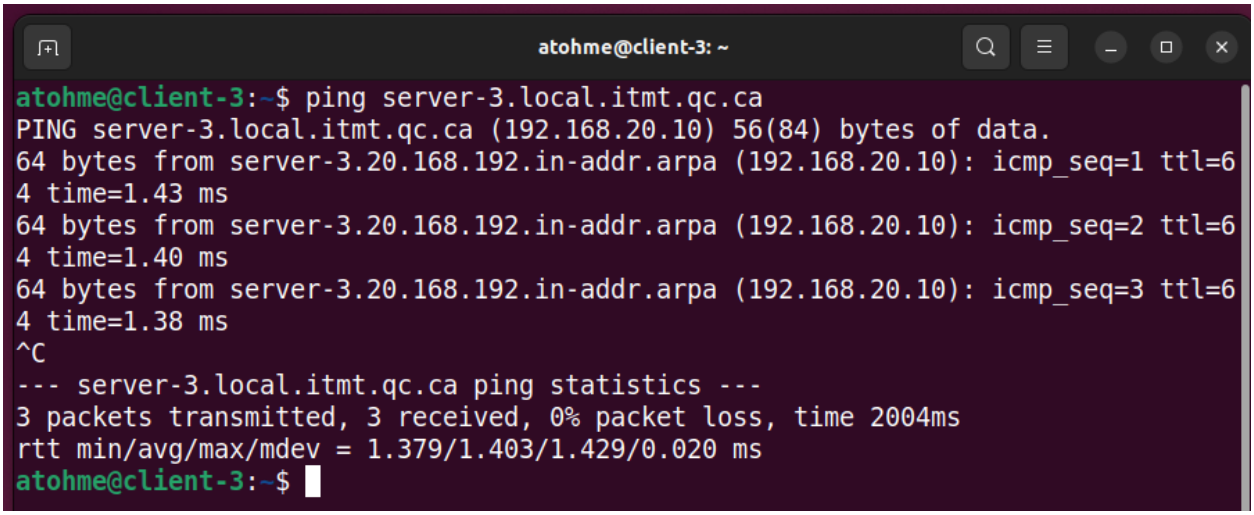
Using host:

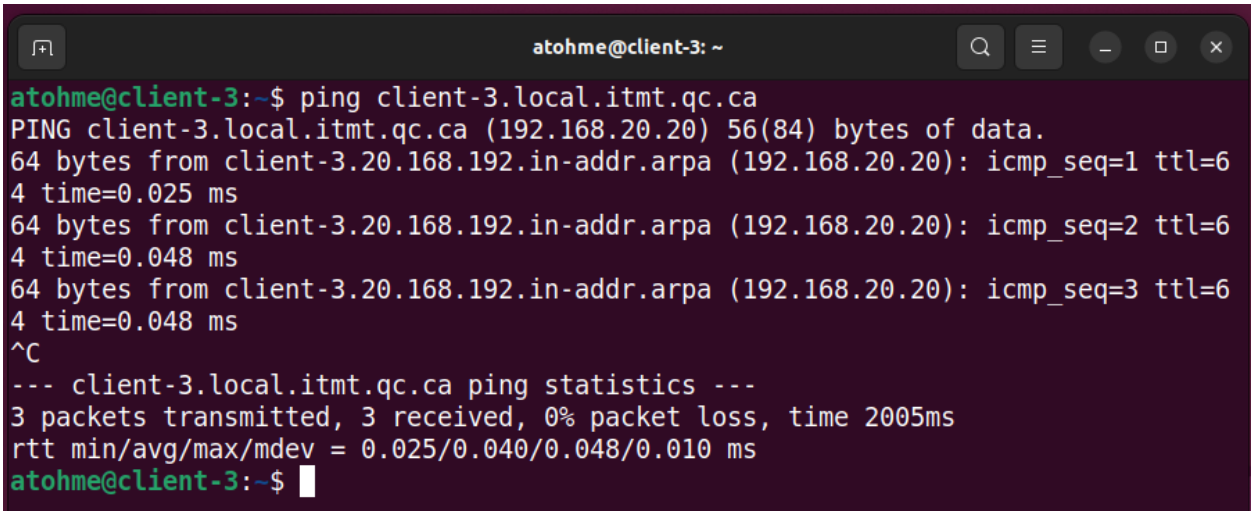
host -l local.itmt.qc.ca



Using ping:

ping server-3.local.itmt.qc.ca and client-3.local.itmt.qc.ca





Part 2:

DHCP Server Configuration (AlmaLinux & Ubuntu)

On AlmaLinux Server:

1. Install the DHCP Server

dnf -y install dhcp-server

```
[root@server-3 ~]# dnf -y install dhcp-server
Last metadata expiration check: 21:23:00 ago on Wed Apr  9 16:55:11 2025.
Dependencies resolved.
================================================================================
 Package                Architecture            Version                 Repository              Size
================================================================================
Installing:
 dhcp-server            x86_64                  12:4.4.2-19.b1.el9      baseos                 1.2 M
Installing dependencies:
 dhcp-common            noarch                  12:4.4.2-19.b1.el9      baseos                 128 k

Transaction Summary
================================================================================
Install  2 Packages

Total download size: 1.3 M
Installed size: 4.2 M
```

```
Installed:
  dhcp-common-12:4.4.2-19.b1.el9.noarch          dhcp-server-12:4.4.2-19.b1.el9.x86_64

Complete!
[root@server-3 ~]#
```

---

2. Configure the DHCP Server

Edit the DHCP configuration file:

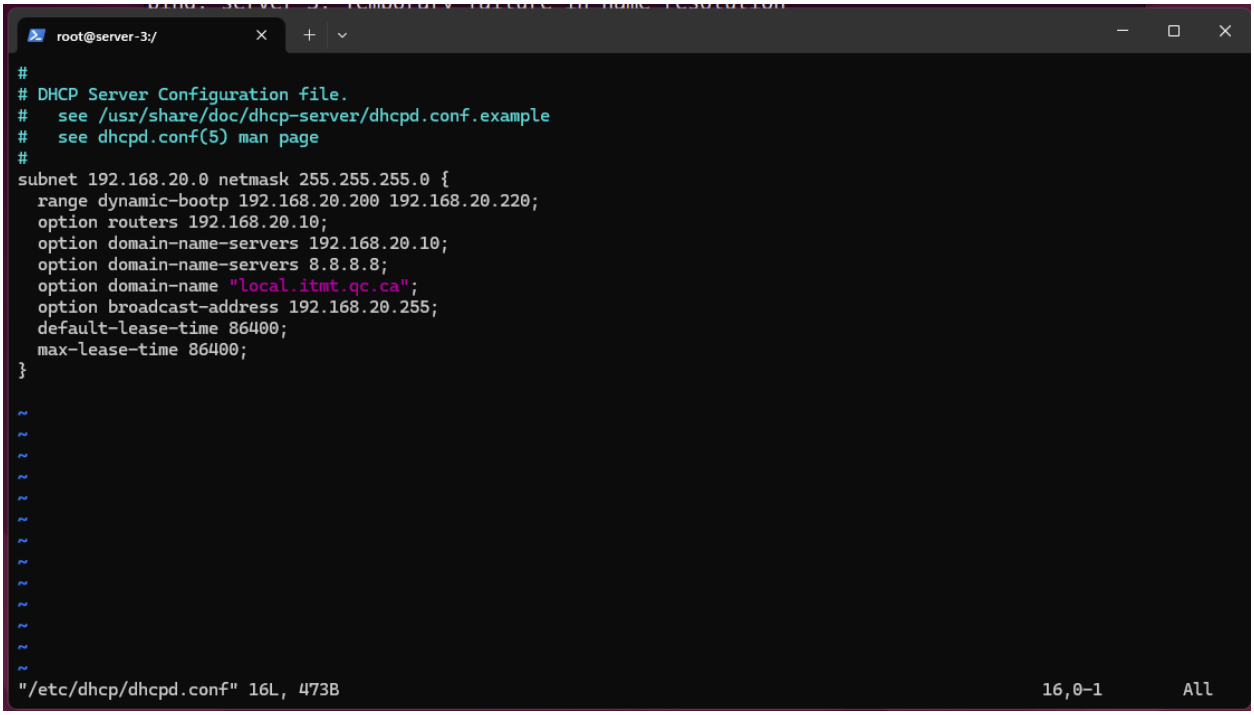
vim /etc/dhcp/dhcpd.conf

```
root@server-3:/
[root@server-3 /]# vim /etc/dhcp/dhcpd.conf
[root@server-3 /]#
```

Add the following configuration to define the IP address range and options:

```
subnet 192.168.20.0 netmask 255.255.255.0 {
   range dynamic-bootp 192.168.20.200 192.168.20.220;
   option routers 192.168.20.10;
   option domain-name-servers 192.168.20.10;
   option domain-name-servers 8.8.8.8;
   option domain-name "local.itmt.qc.ca";
   option broadcast-address 192.168.20.255;
   default-lease-time 86400;
```

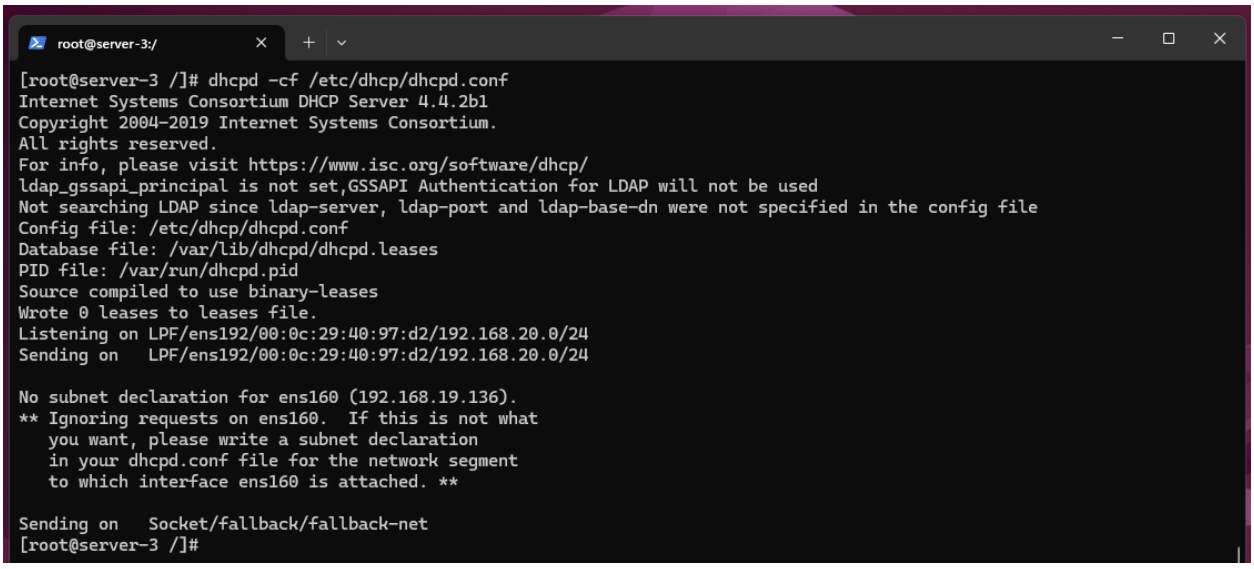
```
    max-lease-time 86400;
}
```



---

3. Check Configuration Syntax

```
dhcpd -cf /etc/dhcp/dhcpd.conf
```

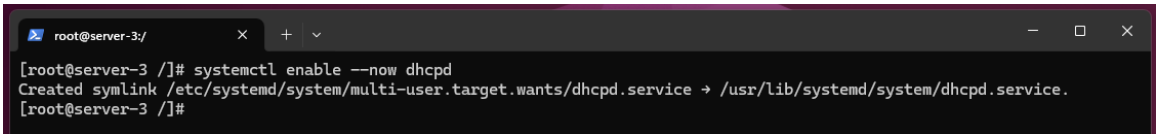


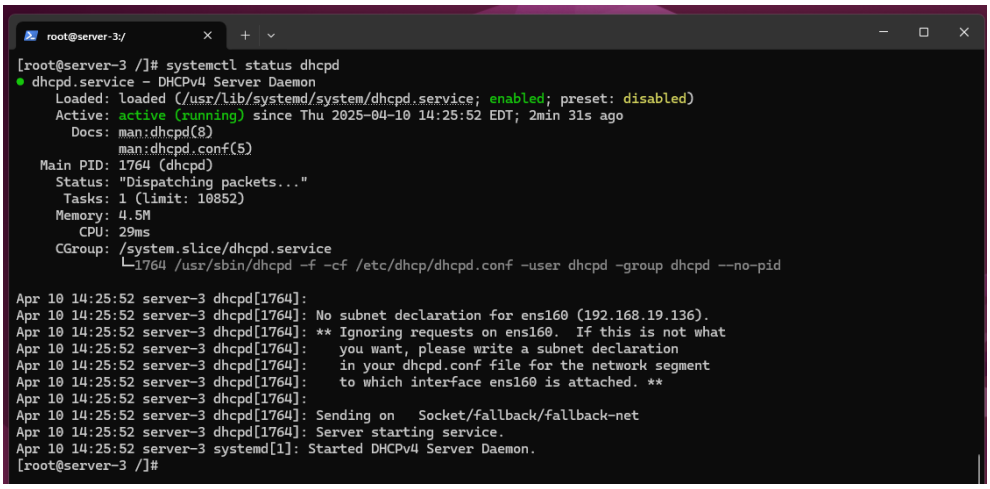
---

4. Enable and Start the DHCP Service

systemctl enable --now dhcpd

systemctl status dhcpd





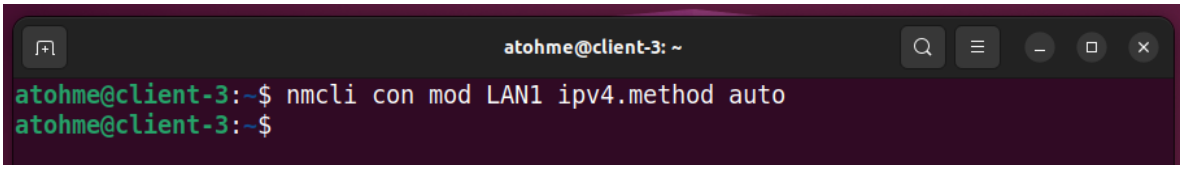
On Ubuntu Client:

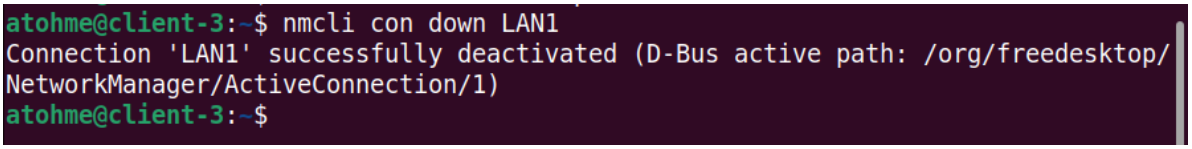
5. Configure the Network to Use DHCP

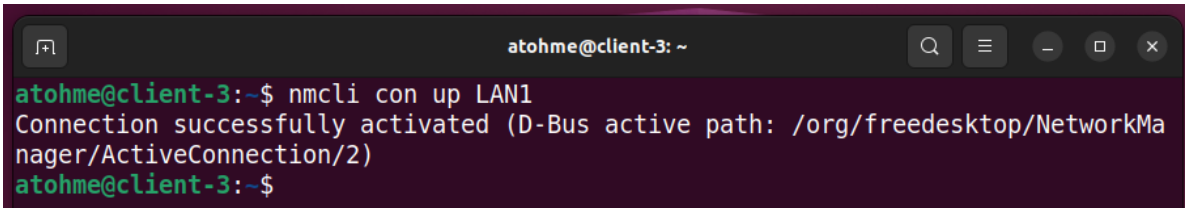
nmcli con mod LAN1 ipv4.method auto

nmcli con down LAN1

nmcli con up LAN1







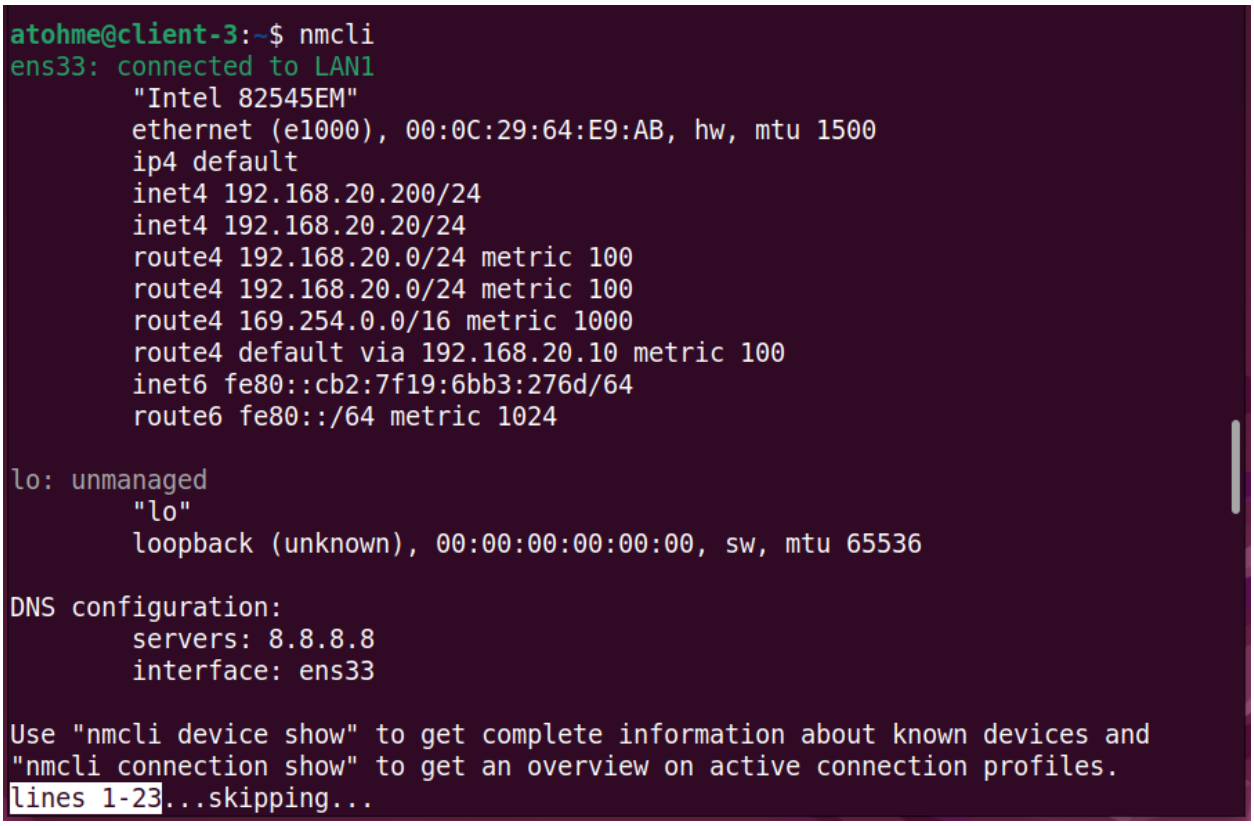
After changing the network connection from static to automatic you need to redo steps 1 and 2 of “DNS Client Configuration on Ubuntu” from Part 1

---

6. Verify DHCP Lease

Run the following to confirm the client received an IP address:

```
nmcli
```

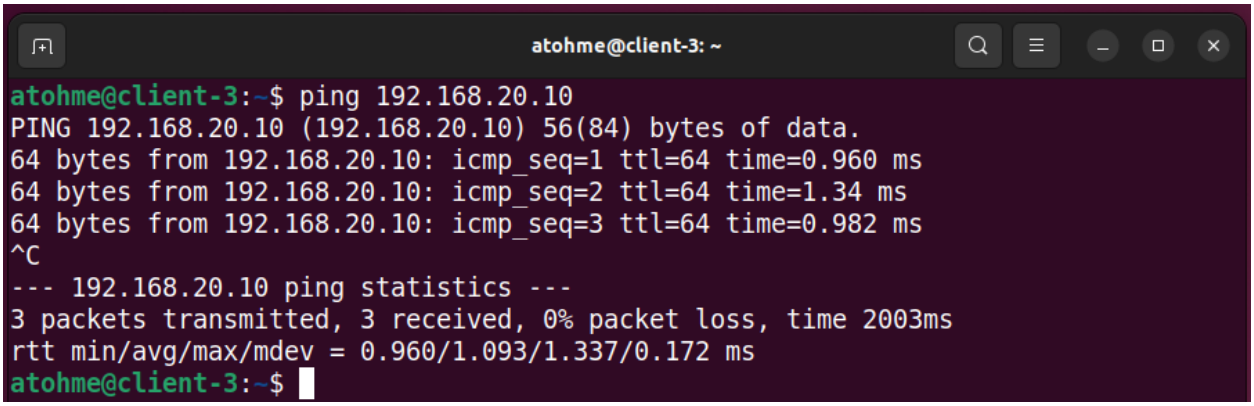


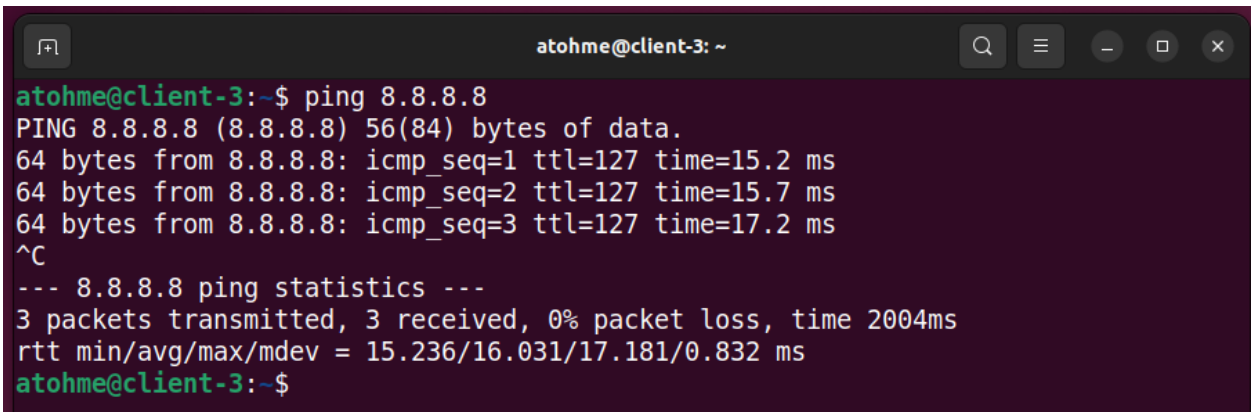
7. Test Connectivity

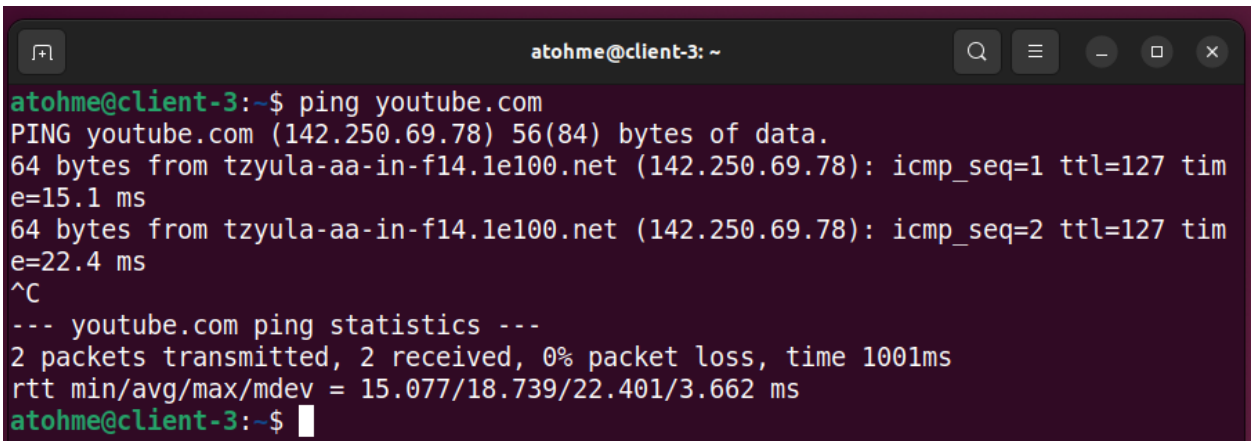
ping 192.168.20.10

ping 8.8.8.8

ping youtube.com



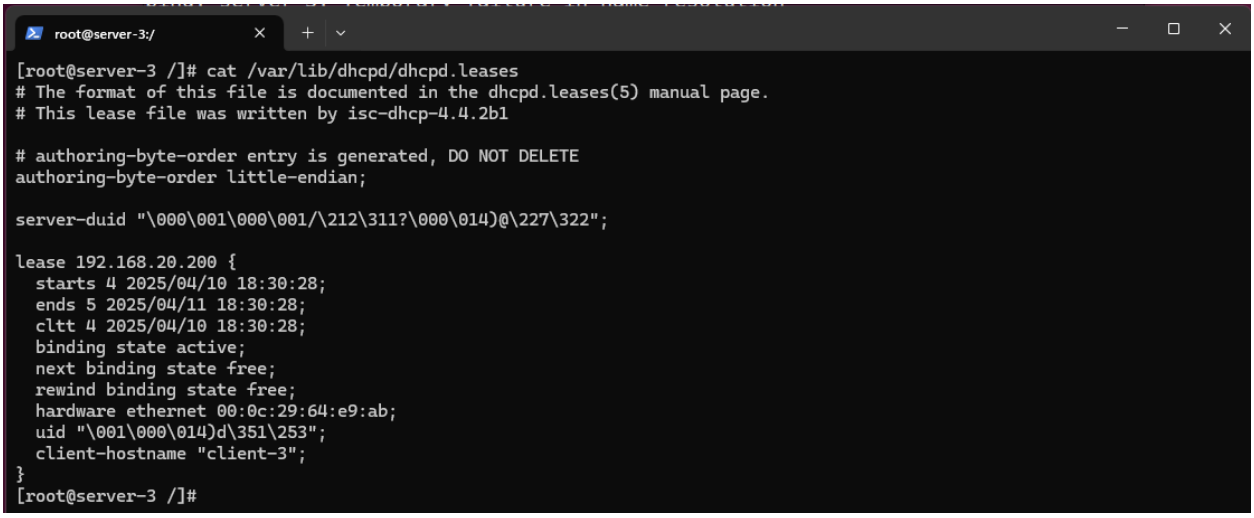




On AlmaLinux Server:

8. Check Active DHCP Leases

cat /var/lib/dhcpd/dhcpd.leases



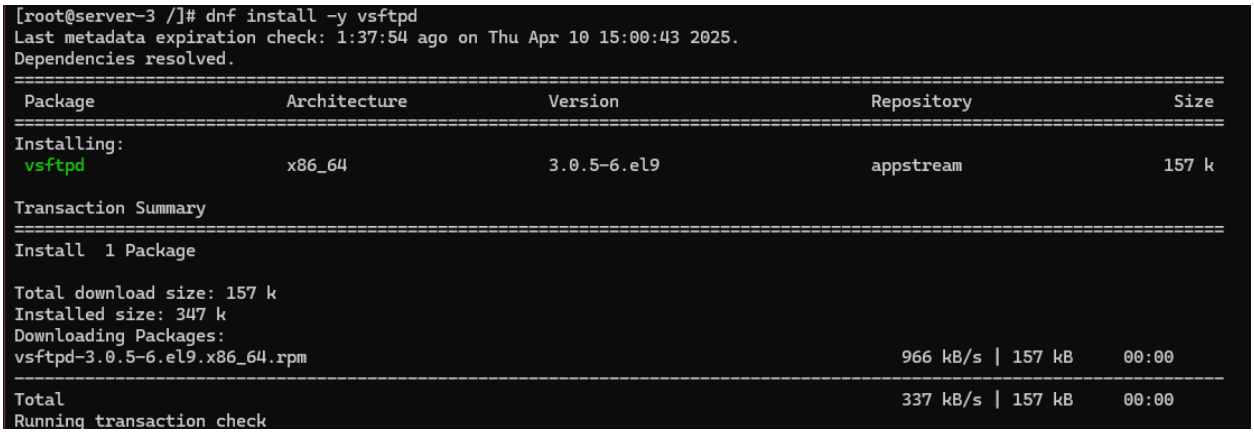
Part 3:

FTP Server Configuration with vsftpd (AlmaLinux & Ubuntu)

On AlmaLinux Server:

1. Install the FTP Server

dnf install -y vsftpd



2. Configure vsftpd for Anonymous Access

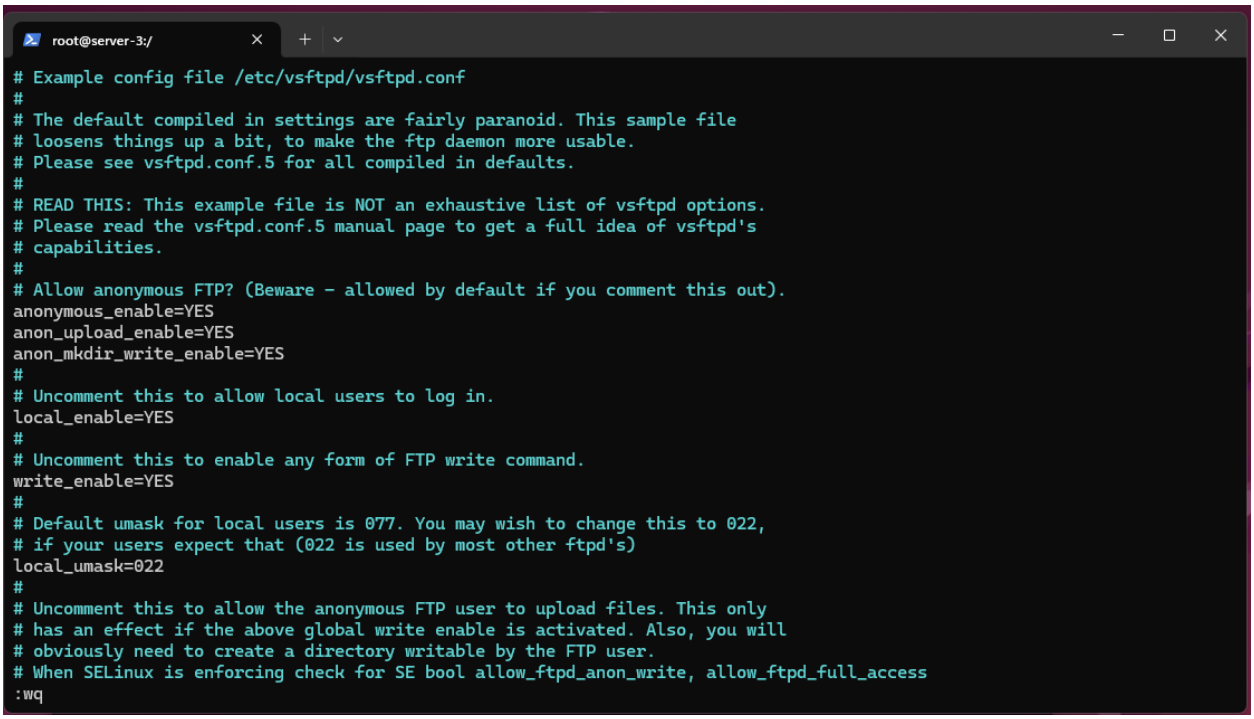
Edit the configuration file:

```
vim /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf
```

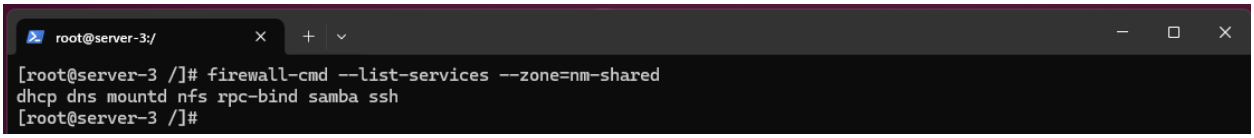
Make the following changes:

```
anonymous_enable=YES
anon_upload_enable=YES
anon_mkdir_write_enable=YES
local_enable=YES
write_enable=YES
local_umask=022
```

Save the file and exit vim.



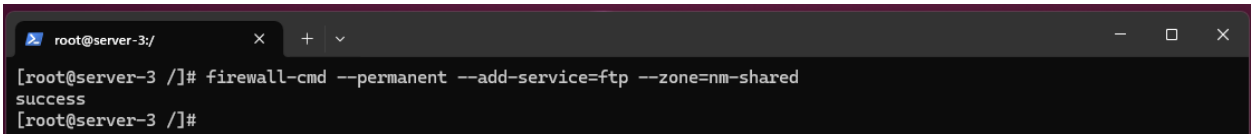
3. Configure the Firewall for FTP Access

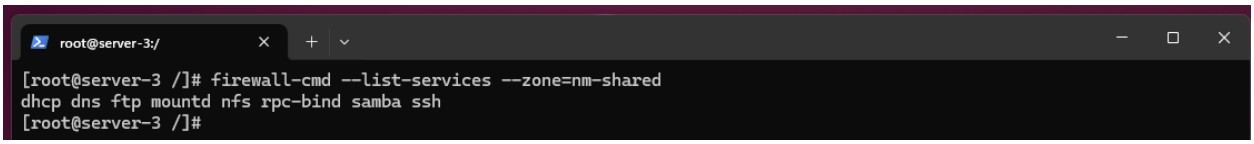


firewall-cmd --permanent --add-service=ftp --zone=nm-shared

firewall-cmd --reload

firewall-cmd --list-services --zone=nm-shared

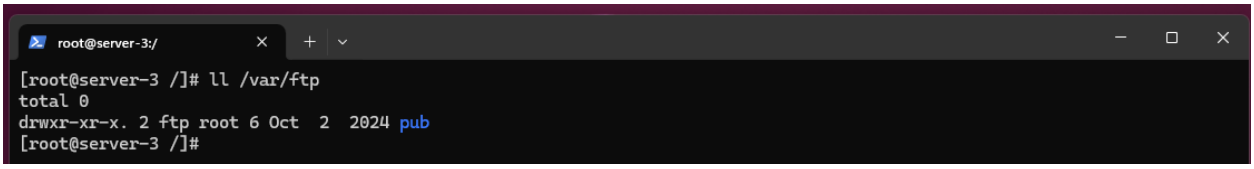




---

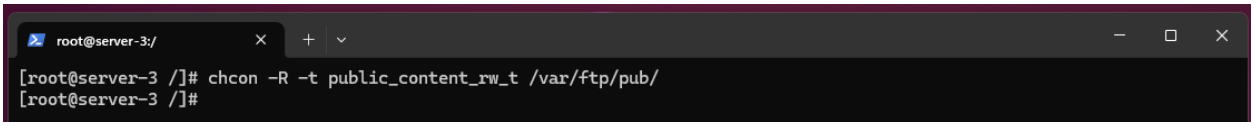
4. Set Correct Ownership for the FTP Public Directory

chown -R ftp /var/ftp/pub



5. Set SELinux Permissions to Allow Uploads

chcon -R -t public_content_rw_t /var/ftp/pub



6. Allow Anonymous Uploads

##setenforce 0 ## *Note: This disables SELinux enforcement temporarily. Use cautiously.*

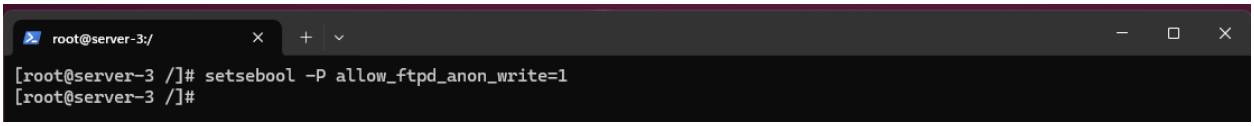
setsebool -P allow_ftpd_anon_write=1

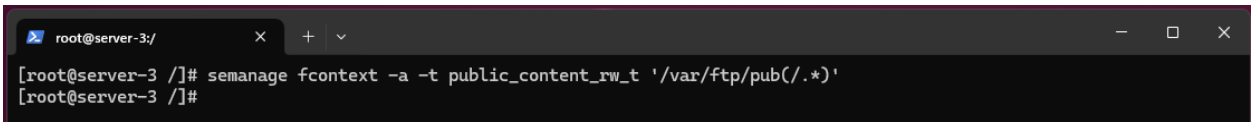
setsebool -P allow_ftpd_full_access=1

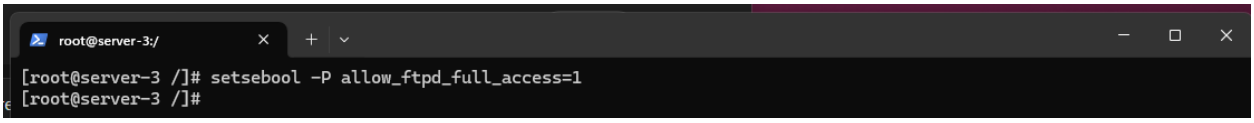
semanage fcontext -a -t public_content_rw_t '/var/ftp/pub(/.*)'

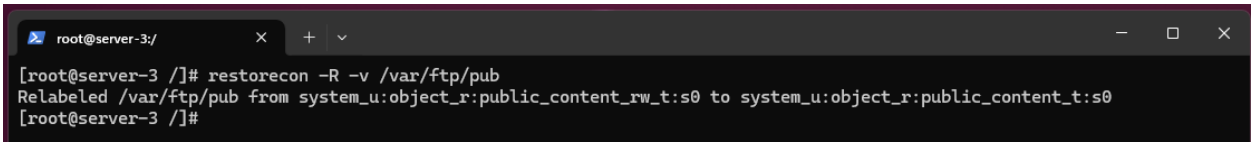
restorecon -R -v /var/ftp/pub

ls -dZ /var/ftp/pub





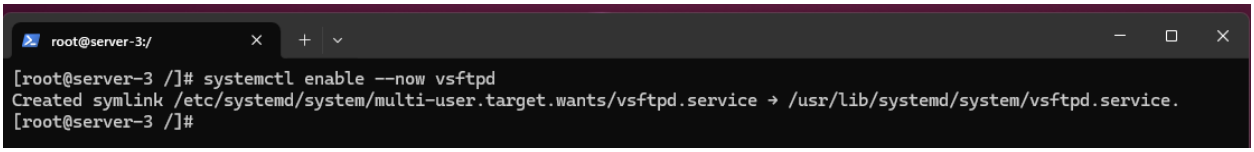


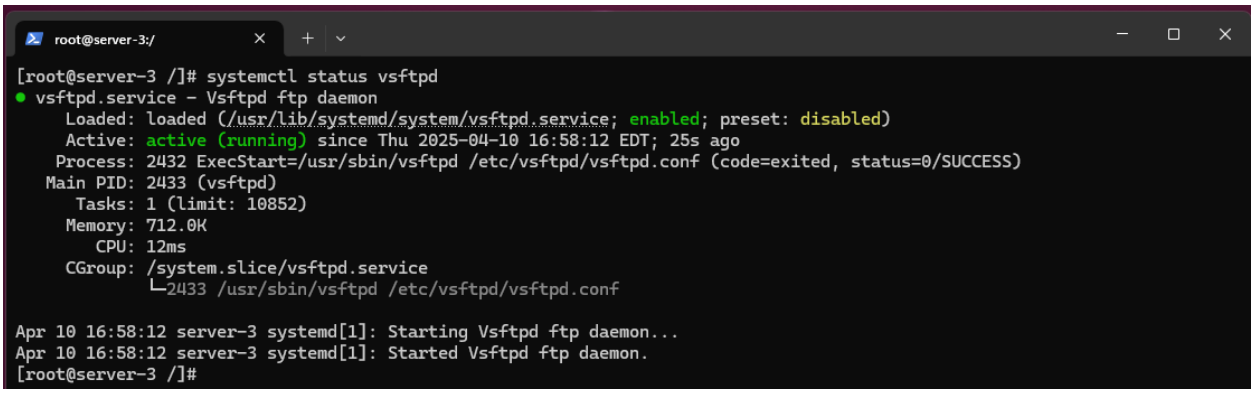


7. Enable and Start the FTP Service

systemctl enable --now vsftpd

systemctl status vsftpd

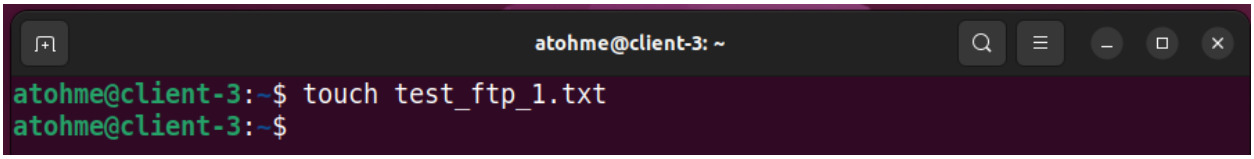


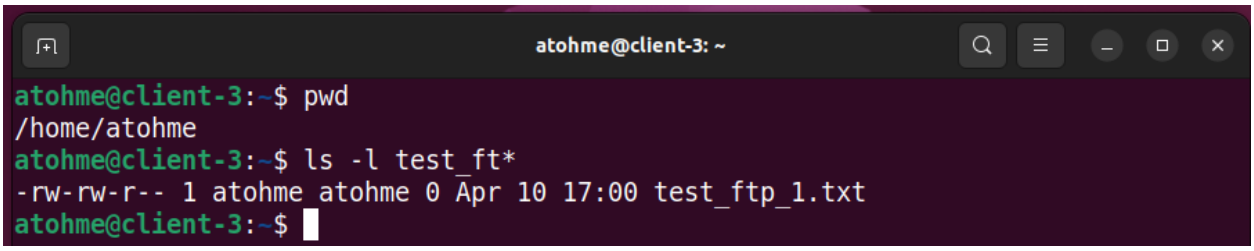


On Ubuntu Client:

8. Create a Test File for Upload

touch test_ftp_1.txt



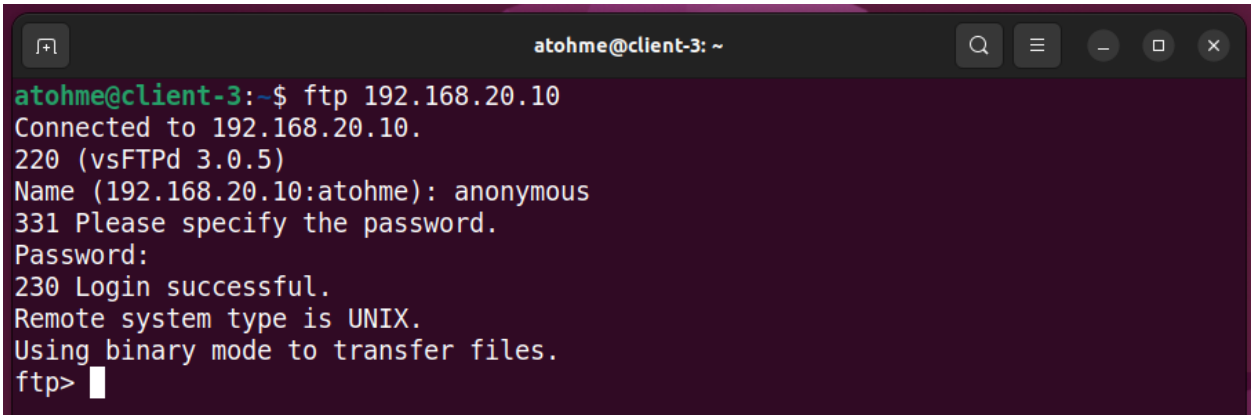


9. Connect to the FTP Server Anonymously

ftp 192.168.20.10

At the Name: prompt, enter:

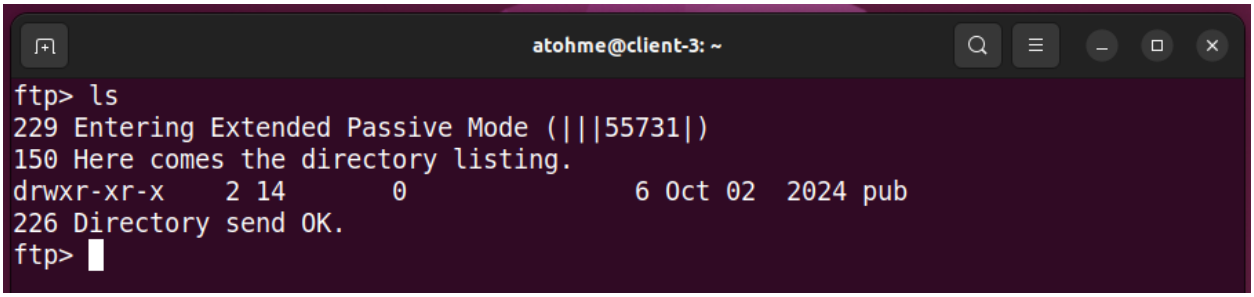
anonymous

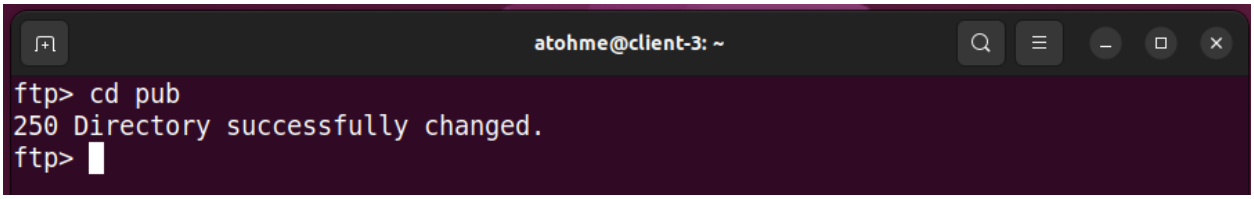


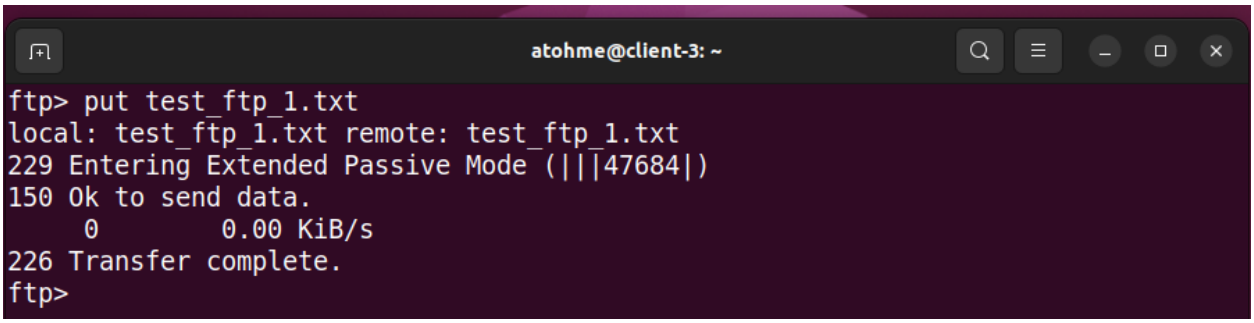
10. Upload the Test File

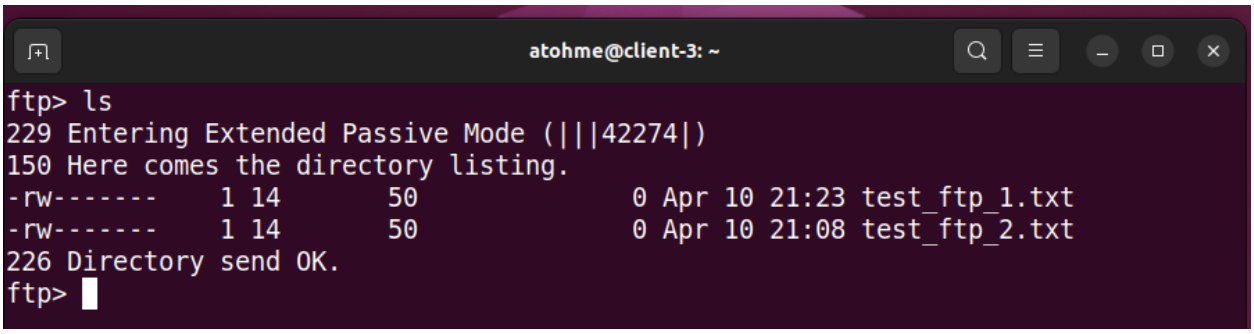
Use these FTP commands after connecting:

ls
cd pub
put test_ftp_1.txt
ls





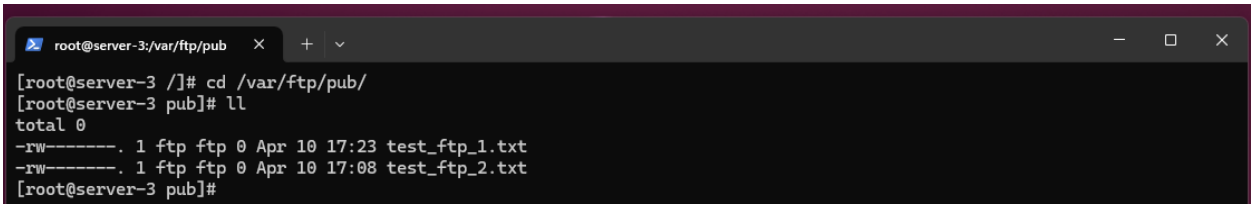




On AlmaLinux Server:

11. Verify the File Was Uploaded

```
cd /var/ftp/pub
ll
```



You should see test_ftp_1.txt (and other files you added) listed.

12. Verify FTP Server Is Listening

Install net-tools if required

```
[root@server-3 pub]# dnf install net-tools -y
Last metadata expiration check: 2:28:59 ago on Thu Apr 10 15:00:43 2025.
Dependencies resolved.
================================================================================
 Package          Architecture     Version                    Repository    Size
================================================================================
Installing:
 net-tools        x86_64           2.0-0.64.20160912git.el9   baseos       294 k

Transaction Summary
================================================================================
Install  1 Package

Total download size: 294 k
```

```
Installing:
 net-tools        x86_64           2.0-0.64.20160912git.el9   baseos       294 k

Transaction Summary
================================================================================
Install  1 Package

Total download size: 294 k
Installed size: 906 k
Downloading Packages:
net-tools-2.0-0.64.20160912git.el9.x86_64.rpm                 1.4 MB/s | 294 kB     00:00
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Total                                                         504 kB/s | 294 kB     00:00
Running transaction check
Transaction check succeeded.
Running transaction test
Transaction test succeeded.
Running transaction
  Preparing        :                                                            1/1
  Installing       : net-tools-2.0-0.64.20160912git.el9.x86_64                  1/1
  Running scriptlet: net-tools-2.0-0.64.20160912git.el9.x86_64                  1/1
  Verifying        : net-tools-2.0-0.64.20160912git.el9.x86_64                  1/1

Installed:
  net-tools-2.0-0.64.20160912git.el9.x86_64

Complete!
[root@server-3 pub]#
```

netstat -tunap | grep ftp

```
root@server-3:/var/ftp/pub
[root@server-3 pub]# netstat -tunap | grep ftp
tcp6       0      0 :::21                   :::*                    LISTEN      2533/vsftpd
[root@server-3 pub]#
```

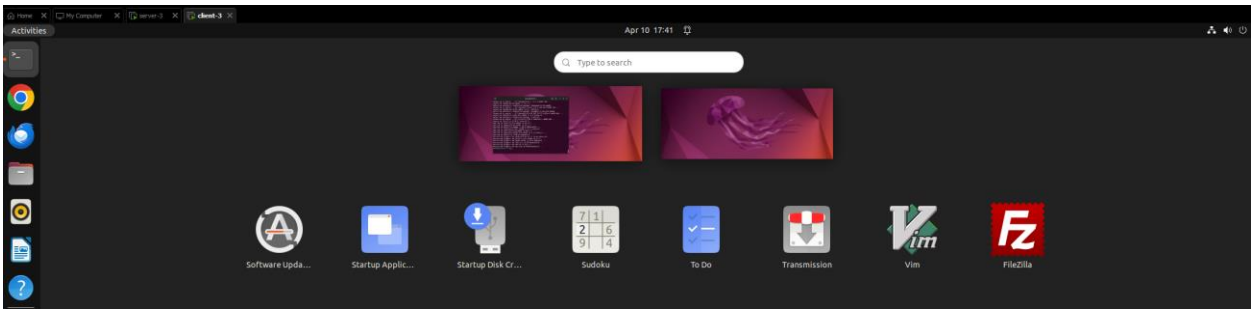
On Ubuntu Client:

13. Test with FileZilla

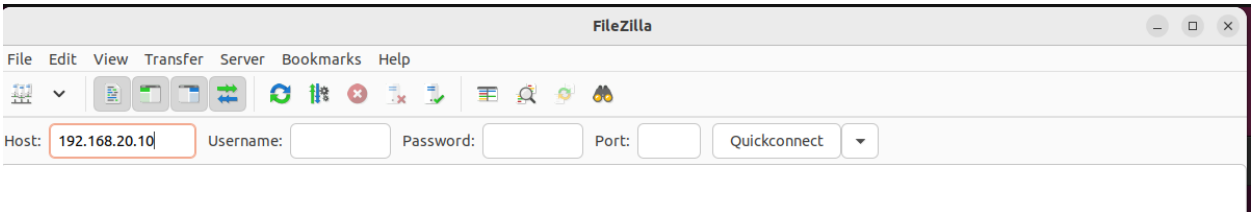
1. Open FileZilla on the Ubuntu client (install via ‘sudo apt install filezilla -y’ if needed).

```
atohme@client-3:~$ sudo apt install filezilla -y
[sudo] password for atohme:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
```

```
Preparing to unpack .../6-filezilla_3.58.0-1ubuntu0.1_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking filezilla (3.58.0-1ubuntu0.1) ...
Setting up libfilezilla-common (0.36.0-2) ...
Setting up libpugixml1v5:amd64 (1.12.1-1) ...
Setting up filezilla-common (3.58.0-1ubuntu0.1) ...
Setting up libwxbase3.0-0v5:amd64 (3.0.5.1+dfsg-4) ...
Setting up libfilezilla24:amd64 (0.36.0-2) ...
Setting up libwxgtk3.0-gtk3-0v5:amd64 (3.0.5.1+dfsg-4) ...
Setting up filezilla (3.58.0-1ubuntu0.1) ...
Processing triggers for desktop-file-utils (0.26-1ubuntu3) ...
Processing triggers for hicolor-icon-theme (0.17-2) ...
Processing triggers for gnome-menus (3.36.0-1ubuntu3) ...
Processing triggers for libc-bin (2.35-0ubuntu3.9) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.10.2-1) ...
Processing triggers for mailcap (3.70+nmu1ubuntu1) ...
atohme@client-3:~$
```

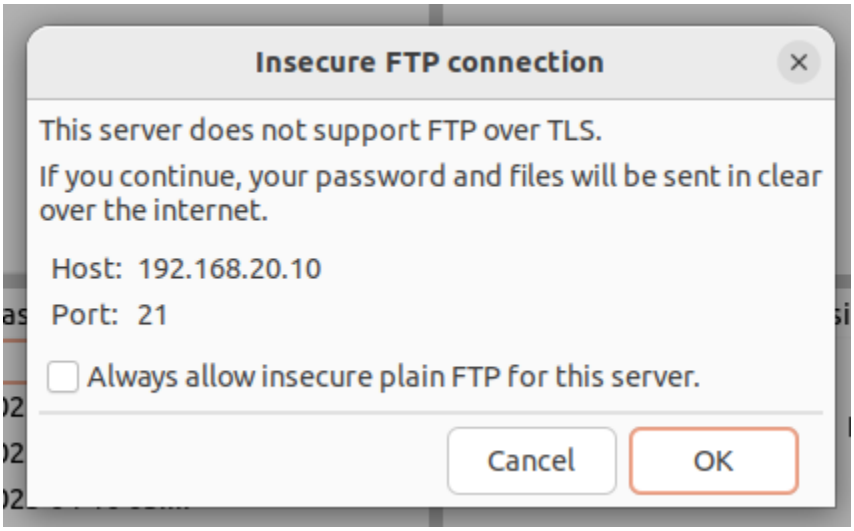


2. In the **Host** field, enter: 192.168.20.10

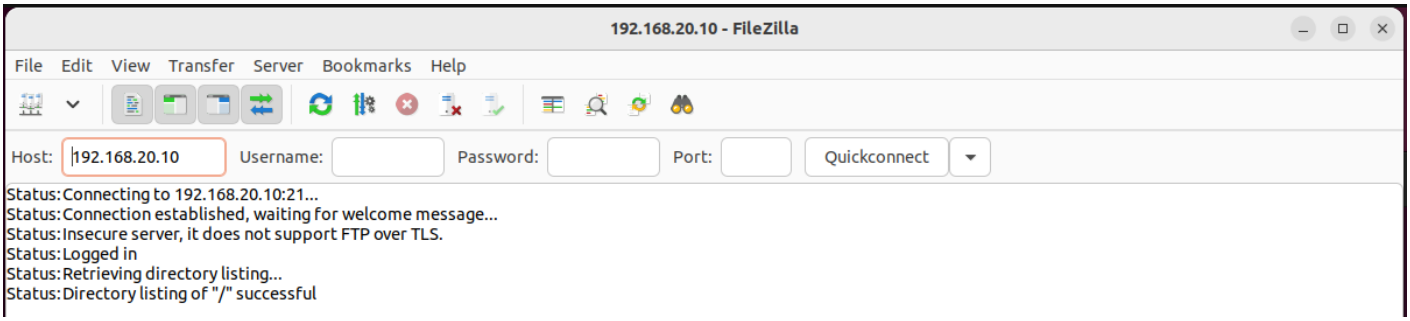


3. Click **Quickconnect → then press enter**

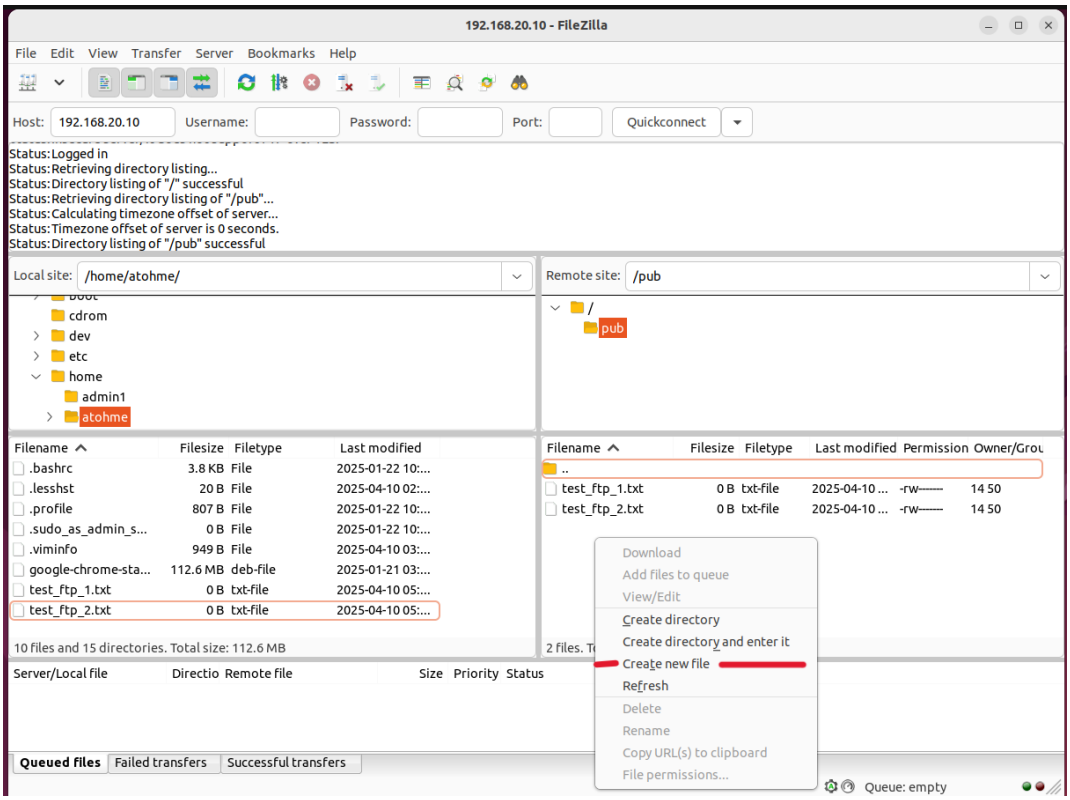
   When prompted answer **yes**

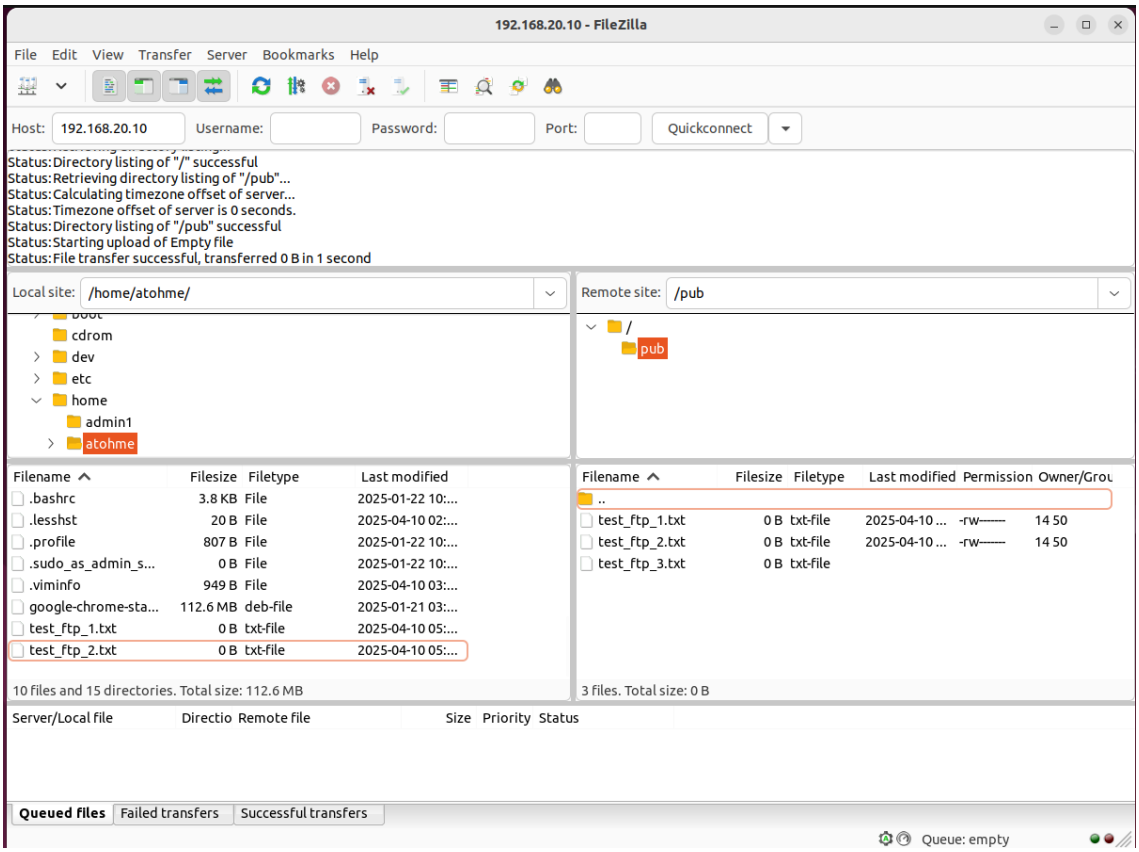


4. You should see a successful connection in the status window.



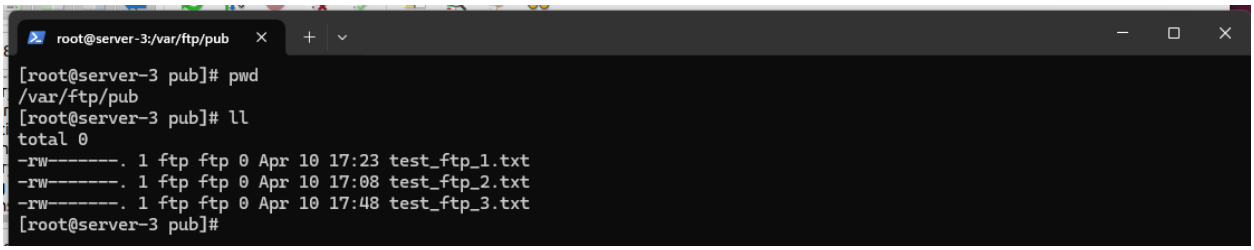
5. Create a new file on the server using FileZila from the client





On AlmaLinux Server:

14. Verify the changes on the Server



Conclusion

This lab gave us valuable, hands-on experience with deploying and validating core network services in a Linux environment. By setting up DNS with BIND, configuring DHCP for dynamic IP management, and enabling FTP for anonymous file sharing, we've reinforced key administrative tasks that are critical in real-world IT infrastructures.

More than just completing a checklist of tasks, this assignment helped build practical skills that are directly relevant to roles in system and network administration. These exercises also align closely with the requirements of certifications like **CompTIA Linux+** and **RHCSA**, making this lab an important step toward becoming a confident, job-ready IT professional. As we continue developing our technical abilities, these foundational experiences will serve as the building blocks for more advanced projects and real-world challenges in the industry.