**Single user mode**

Single user mode mainly used for doing **administrative, maintenance or emergency task such** as cleaning the file system, Managing the quotas, Recovering the file system and also recover the lost root password. In this mode services won't start, none of the users are allowed to login except root and also system won't ask for password to login. It is **runlevel 1** under system SysV init, and **runlevel1.target** or **rescue.target** in systemd

Some of the low-level repairs include running such as **fsck** of damaged disk partitions, [reset root password](https://www.tecmint.com/reset-forgotten-root-password-in-centos-7-rhel-7/) if you have lost it, fix “[failed to mount /etc/fstab](https://www.tecmint.com/fix-failed-to-mount-etc-fstab-error-in-linux/)” error.

Why did Linux machine hang?

Some of the common causes that cause freezing/hanging in Linux are either software or hardware related issues. They include; **system resources exhaustion**, application compatibility issues, under-performing hardware, slow networks, device/application configurations, and long-running un-interruptable computations.