

**NAME**

netplan-generate – generate backend configuration from netplan YAML files

**SYNOPSIS**

**netplan** [-debug] **generate** -h | -help

**netplan** [-debug] **generate** [-root-dir *ROOT\_DIR*] [-mapping *MAPPING*]

**DESCRIPTION**

netplan generate converts netplan YAML into configuration files understood by the backends (**systemd-networkd**(8) or **NetworkManager**(8)). It *does not* apply the generated configuration.

You will not normally need to run this directly as it is run by **netplan apply**, **netplan try**, or at boot.

For details of the configuration file format, see **netplan**(5).

**OPTIONS**

**-h, -help**

Print basic help.

**-debug** Print debugging output during the process.

**-root-dir** *ROOT\_DIR*

Instead of looking in `/lib,etc,run/netplan`, look in `/ROOT_DIR/lib,etc,run/netplan`

**-mapping** *MAPPING*

Instead of generating output files, parse the configuration files and print some internal information about the device specified in *MAPPING*.

**HANDLING MULTIPLE FILES**

There are 3 locations that netplan generate considers:

- `/lib/netplan/*.yaml`
- `/etc/netplan/*.yaml`
- `/run/netplan/*.yaml`

If there are multiple files with exactly the same name, then only one will be read. A file in `/run/netplan` will shadow – completely replace – a file with the same name in `/etc/netplan`. A file in `/etc/netplan` will itself shadow a file in `/lib/netplan`.

Or in other words, `/run/netplan` is top priority, then `/etc/netplan`, with `/lib/netplan` having the lowest priority.

If there are files with different names, then they are considered in lexicographical order – regardless of the directory they are in. Later files add to or override earlier files. For example, `/run/netplan/10-foo.yaml` would be updated by `/lib/netplan/20-abc.yaml`.

If you have two files with the same key/setting, the following rules apply:

- If the values are YAML boolean or scalar values (numbers and strings) the old value is overwritten by the new value.
- If the values are sequences, the sequences are concatenated – the new values are appended to the old list.
- If the values are mappings, netplan will examine the elements of the mappings in turn using these rules.

**SEE ALSO**

**netplan**(5), **netplan-apply**(8), **netplan-try**(8), **systemd-networkd**(8), **NetworkManager**(8)

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