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Linux / UNIX: Getting information about reboots and shutdowns

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Q. I'd like to monitor my UNIX / Linux server reboot / shutdown usage. How do I get more information about reboot and shutdown command?

A. There is a file called /var/log/wtmp. The pseudo user reboot logs in each time the system is rebooted. Thus last reboot will show a log of all reboots since the log file was created.

[1]

wtmp also contains information about reboots and shutdowns, you can list that information, by typing the following command at the shell prompt:

```
$ sudo last reboot
```

OR

```
# last reboot
```

Output:

```
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Wed Oct 24 08:03 - 08:48   (00:44)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Tue Oct 23 21:21 - 00:40   (03:18)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Tue Oct 23 14:29 - 19:55   (05:26)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Mon Oct 22 18:36 - 19:55 (1+01:19)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Mon Oct 22 17:05 - 19:55 (1+02:50)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Mon Oct 22 14:50 - 17:03   (02:13)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Mon Oct 22 13:28 - 13:29   (00:01)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Mon Oct 22 13:07 - 13:27   (00:20)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Sun Oct 21 14:38 - 08:20   (17:42)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Sat Oct 20 10:53 - 12:54 (1+02:00)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Fri Oct 19 21:18 - 01:41   (04:22)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Fri Oct 19 16:07 - 01:41   (09:34)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Thu Oct 18 22:56 - 12:32   (13:35)
reboot    system boot   2.6.22-14-generi Thu Oct 18 14:30 - 12:32   (22:01)
```

You can also type the following command to get halt / shutdown time only:

```
$ last -x | grep down
```

Output:

```
vivek     tty1                          Mon Oct 22 13:25 - down    (00:01)
vivek     tty7           :0             Mon Oct 22 13:08 - down    (00:19)
vivek     tty1                          Thu Oct 18 14:25 - down    (00:04)
vivek     tty7           :0             Thu Oct 18 14:24 - down    (00:04)
vivek     tty1                          Thu Oct 18 14:16 - down    (00:00)
vivek     tty1                          Thu Oct 18 14:13 - down    (00:02)
```

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