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Linux / UNIX Automatically Log BASH / TCSH / SSH Users Out After a Period of Inactivity

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My development and testing webserver is used by over 100s of users. These users login from Windows XP, Linux, Mac OS X system via ssh. How do I set or automatically log users out after a period of inactivity under CentOS Linux server to improve server security and save some resources?



You can configure any Linux system to automatically log users out after a period of inactivity. Simply login as the root user and create a file called /etc/profile.d/autologout.sh, enter::

[1]

```
# vi /etc/profile.d/autologout.sh
```

Append the following code:

```
TMOUT=300
readonly TMOUT
export TMOUT
```

Save and close the file. Set permissions:

```
# chmod +x /etc/profile.d/autologout.sh
```

Above script will implement a 5 minute idle time-out for the default /bin/bash shell. You can also create tcsh version as follows:

```
# vi /etc/profile.d/autologout.csh
```

Append the following code:

```
set -r autologout 5
```

Save and close the file. Set permissions, enter:

```
# chmod +x /etc/profile.d/autologout.csh
```

Dealing with ssh clients

SSH allows administrators to set an idle timeout interval. After this interval has passed, the idle user will be automatically logged out. Open /etc/ssh/sshd config file, enter:

```
# vi /etc/ssh/sshd config
```

Find ClientAliveInterval and set to 300 (5 minutes) as follows:

```
ClientAliveInterval 300
ClientAliveCountMax 0
```

Save and close the file. Restart sshd:

```
# service sshd restart
```

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