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Ubuntu / Debian Linux: Install Monit Linux Server Monitoring Utility

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Q. How do I install monit to monitor my server under Debian / Ubuntu Linux?

A. monit is a utility for managing and monitoring processes, files, directories and devices on a Debian / Ubuntu Linux server system. Common monit usage:

- a) Monit can start a process if it does not run
- b) Restart a process if it does not respond
- c) Stop a process if it uses too much resources etc

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How do I install monit utility for monitoring services?

Simply type the following command as the root user:

```
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install monit
```

Configure monit

Open monit configuration file `/etc/monit/monitrc` using vi text editor:

```
# vi /etc/monit/monitrc
```

You need to set following parameters:

```
set daemon 120
set logfile syslog facility log_daemon
set mailserver localhost # primary mailserver
set alert vivek@nixcraft.com # receive all alerts
```

Save and close the file. Where,

- **set daemon 120** : Start monit in background as daemon and check the services at 2-minute intervals.
- **set logfile syslog facility log_daemon** : Log messages in `/var/log/messages` file
- **set mailserver localhost** : Send email alert via localmail server such as sendmail. Set list of mailservers for alert delivery. Multiple servers may be specified using comma separator. By default monit uses port 25 - it is possible to override it with the PORT option.
- **set alert vivek@nixcraft.com** : You can set the alert recipients here, which will receive the alert for each service. The event alerts may be restricted using the list.

Now open `/etc/default/monit` file to turn on monit service:

```
# vi /etc/default/monit
```

Set startup to 1, so monit can start:

```
startup=1
```

Save and close the file. Start the monit Linux monitor tool / service:

```
# /etc/init.d/monit start
```

Continue reading rest of the *Linux Server Monitor* series (TOC):

1. Ubuntu / Debian Linux: Install Monit Linux Server Monitoring Utility
2. [Monit: Monitor SSHD Server and Auto Restart SSH If It Does Not Respond](#) ^[1]
3. [Monit: Monitor BIND 9 \(named\) Name Server and Auto Restart SSH If It Does Not Respond](#) ^[3]

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[2] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/debian-ubuntu/>

[3] Monit: Monitor BIND 9 (named) Name Server and Auto Restart SSH If It Does Not Respond:
<http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/monit-restart-bind9-named-name-server/>

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