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OpenBSD Set / Configure Time Zone

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Q. How do I configure or change timezone under OpenBSD operating system?



A. All of the time zones OpenBSD supports are in the /usr/share/zoneinfo directory tree. You need to create symlink to /etc/localtime file.

- => /usr/share/zoneinfo time zone information directory
- => /etc/localtime local time zone file
- => /usr/share/zoneinfo/posixrules used with POSIX-style TZ's (generally not required)
- => /usr/share/zoneinfo/GMT for UTC leap seconds

Here is my current timezone - set to Asia / Calcutta (GMT +5:30):

\$ ls -1 /etc/localtime

Sample output:

lrwxr-xr-x 1 root wheel 33 Sep 19 2007 /etc/localtime -> /usr/share/zoneinfo/Asia/Calcu

How do I change time zone?

You'll see several subdirectories for various countries or continents, each containing either city names or local time zones.

ls /usr/share/zoneinfo/

Sample output:

Africa America	Atlantic Australia	Canada Chile	EST5EDT Egypt	Factory GB	GMT - 0 GMT 0	Iceland Indian	Japan Kwajalein	MS7 Mex
Antarctica		Cuba	Eire	GB-Eire	Greenwich	Iran	Libya	Mic
Arctic	CET	EET	Etc	GMT	HST	Israel	MET	NZ
Asia	CST6CDT	EST	Europe	GMT+0	Hongkong	Jamaica	MST	NZ·
4		III						

Find the file for the time zone you like or for a city whose time zone you share. To set the time zone, just create a new symbolic link to the file from /etc/localtime.

ln -sf /usr/share/zoneinfo/America/New_York /etc/localtime

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