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UNIX Date Command Examples

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How do I view and set date under UNIX operating systems?

The date command under UNIX display date. It is also used to set date and time. You must be the super-user (root) to change the date and time.

Syntax

[1]

```
date
date "+format"
```

Task: Display Current Date and Time

Type the following command:

```
date
```

Sample outputs:

```
Tue Oct 27 15:35:08 CDT 2009
```

Task: Set The Current Time

To set the current time to 05:30:30, enter:

```
date 0530.30
```

Task: Set Date

Set the date to Oct 25, 12:45 a.m., enter:

```
date 10250045
```

Another example - set the current date and time to Oct 15, 2009 04:30 you type:

```
date --set="20091015 04:30"
```

Task: Generating Output

Type the following command:

```
date '+DATE: %m/%d/%y%nTIME:%H:%M:%S'
```

Sample outputs:

```
DATE: 10/27/09
TIME:15:50:44
```

Try the following examples:

```
date "+%m/%d/%y"
date "+%Y%m%d"
date +'%-4.4h %2.1d %H:%M'
```

Unix Command Help

Type the following command to read the date command man page:

```
man date
```

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