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How do I enable apache file and directory indexing under Linux or UNIX?

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Q. I'm using Apache 2 under Linux. How do I enable apache file and directory indexing? Currently it is disabled and I would like to enable the same for /pdfs/ directory (http://domain.com/pdfs).



A. Under Apache web server automatic index generation is enabled with using Options +Indexes or Options Indexes directive.

If a URL which maps to a directory is requested, and there is no DirectoryIndex (e.g., index.html) in that directory, then mod_autoindex will return a formatted listing of the directory.

Option # 1: Using Apache config file

Add directory option to Apache configuration file /etc/httpd/httpd.conf or /etc/apache2/apache2.conf:

vi /etc/apache2/apache2.conf

Add following code:

<Directory /var/www/domain.com/pdfs>
Options Indexes FollowSymLinks
</Directory>

Save and close the file. Restart Apache:

/etc/init.d/httpd restart

OR

/etc/init.d/apache2 restart

Option #2: Using .htaccess Files with Apache

You can place config line Options Indexes in .htaccess file. Make sure .htaccess file support is enabled. Change directory to pdfs

\$ cd pdfs

Open .htaccess file

\$ vi .htaccess

Append following apache directive:

Options Indexes

Save and close the file.

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