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Linux NFS Export / share directory to other UNIX / Linux computer

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Q. I'm using CentOS 5 Linux 64 bit version. How do I share directory called /data2 to all other UNIX / Linux computers?

A. NFS (Network file system) is both a protocol and file system for accessing and sharing file systems across a computer network using UNIX and Linux. NFS v4 is used in modern Linux distributions. It offers performance improvements, mandates strong security, and introduces a stateful protocol etc.

[1]

How do I export a directory with NFS?

In order to export or share directory called /data2, you need to edit a file called **/etc/exports**. The file /etc/exports serves as the access control list for file systems which may be exported to NFS clients.:

```
# vi /etc/exports
```

Add config directive as follows:

```
/data2 *(rw,sync)
```

Each line contains an export point and a whitespace-separated list of clients allowed to mount the file system at that point. Each listed client may be immediately followed by a parenthesized, comma-separated list of export options for that client.

Where,

* **rw** - Allow both read and write requests on /data2 NFS volume
* **sync** - Reply to requests only after the changes have been committed to stable storage

Save and close the file. Restart the nfs service:

```
# /etc/init.d/nfs restart
```

NFS client configuration

Client computer need to mount file system using mount command or /etc/fstab file, enter:

```
# mkdir /mnt/nfs
# mount -t nfs4 nfsserver-name-or-ip:/data2 /mnt/nfs
```

Read the man page for more configuration options:

```
$ man exports
```

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