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Apache Log Files

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Q. How do I find out Apache http server log files location? How do I change the location of Apache log file under Linux / UNIX operating system?

[1]

A. There are two type of apache httpd server log files:

Apache Error Log File

All apache errors / diagnostic information other errors found during serving requests are logged to this file. Location of error log is set using **ErrorLog** directive. If there is any problem, you should first take a look at this file using **cat**, **grep** or any other UNIX / Linux text utilities. This apache log file often contain details of what **went wrong and how to fix it**. Default error log file location:

- RHEL / Red Hat / CentOS / Fedora Linux Apache error file location - **[/var/log/httpd/error_log](#)**
- Debian / Ubuntu Linux Apache error log file location - **[/var/log/apache2/error.log](#)**
- FreeBSD Apache error log file location - **[/var/log/httpd-error.log](#)**

To find exact apache log file location, you can use **grep** command:

```
# grep ErrorLog /usr/local/etc/apache22/httpd.conf
# grep ErrorLog /etc/apache2/apache2.conf
# grep ErrorLog /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf
```

Sample output:

```
# ErrorLog: The location of the error log file.
# If you do not specify an ErrorLog directive within a
ErrorLog "/var/log/httpd-error.log"
```

Apache Access Log File

Apache server records all incoming requests and all requests processed to a log file. The format of the access log is highly configurable. The location and content of the access log are controlled by the **CustomLog** directive. Default apache access log file location:

- RHEL / Red Hat / CentOS / Fedora Linux Apache access file location - **[/var/log/httpd/access_log](#)**
- Debian / Ubuntu Linux Apache access log file location - **[/var/log/apache2/access.log](#)**
- FreeBSD Apache access log file location - **[/var/log/httpd-access.log](#)**

To find exact apache log file location, you can use **grep** command:

```
# grep CustomLog /usr/local/etc/apache22/httpd.conf
# grep CustomLog /etc/apache2/apache2.conf
# grep CustomLog /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf
```

Sample output:

```
# a CustomLog directive (see below).
#CustomLog "/var/log/httpd-access.log" common
CustomLog "/var/log/httpd-access.log" combined
```

How do I change Apache log file location?

Simply edit apache configuration file and change the location. You need define new location using **CustomLog** or **ErrorLog**:

```
ErrorLog "/home/httpd/cyberciti.biz/rawlogs/httpd-error.log"  
CustomLog "/home/httpd/cyberciti.biz/rawlogs/httpd-access.log" combined
```

Save and close the file. Restart httpd:

```
# service httpd restart
```

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