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Linux port scanning with netcat (nc) command

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Q. How do I find out which ports are opened on my own server? How do I run port scanning using nc command?

A. It may be useful to know which ports are open and running services on a target machine. You can use [nmap command for port scanning](#) [2].



[1]

How do I use nc to scan Linux / UNIX / Windows server port scanning?

If nmap is not installed try nc / netcat command. The -z flag can be used to tell nc to report open ports, rather than initiate a connection.

Run nc command with -z flag. You need to specify host name / ip along with the port range to limit and speedup operation.

```
$ nc -z vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 1-1023
```

Output:

```
Connection to localhost 25 port [tcp/smtp] succeeded!
Connection to vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 25 port [tcp/smtp] succeeded!
Connection to vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 80 port [tcp/http] succeeded!
Connection to vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 143 port [tcp/imap] succeeded!
Connection to vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 199 port [tcp/smux] succeeded!
Connection to vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 783 port [tcp/*] succeeded!
Connection to vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 904 port [tcp/vmware-authd] succeeded!
Connection to vip-1.vsnl.nixcraft.in 993 port [tcp/imap] succeeded!
```

See also

- [Linux: Scanning network for open ports](#) [2]
- netcat / nc and nmap command man page

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/networking/>

[2] nmap command for port scanning: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/linux-scanning-network-for-open-ports.html>

