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Linux: How can I find a file on my system?

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. I have remove server. I login through SSH program. How do I find a file called xyz on my Linux server system?

A. You can use find command. It search for files in a directory hierarchy under Linux and all other UNIX like oses. Use find command to find a file from shell prompt.

Find command syntax

find Search-Directory-Path -name file-name-to-search

Examples

To find a file called zyz in /home/user directory type the command:

\$ find /home/user -name xyz

To find a file called passwd in / (search entire system) directory type the command:

\$ find / -name passwd

See this previous article for more info [1].

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