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## Howto Red hat enterprise Linux 5 configure the network card

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Q. I've installed Red Hat enterprise Linux 5 and now added one more LAN card (NIC). How do I configure the network card from the command line? I can see 2nd my network card detected while booting the IBM server.



[1]

A. Red hat Linux provides following tools to make changes to Network configuration such as add new card, assign IP address, change DNS server etc.

[a] GUI tool (X Windows required) - system-config-network

[b] Command line text based GUI tool (No X Windows required) - system-config-network

[c] Edit configuration files stored in `/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/` directory.

Following instructions are compatible with

(1) Cent OS Linux

(2) Fedora Core Linux

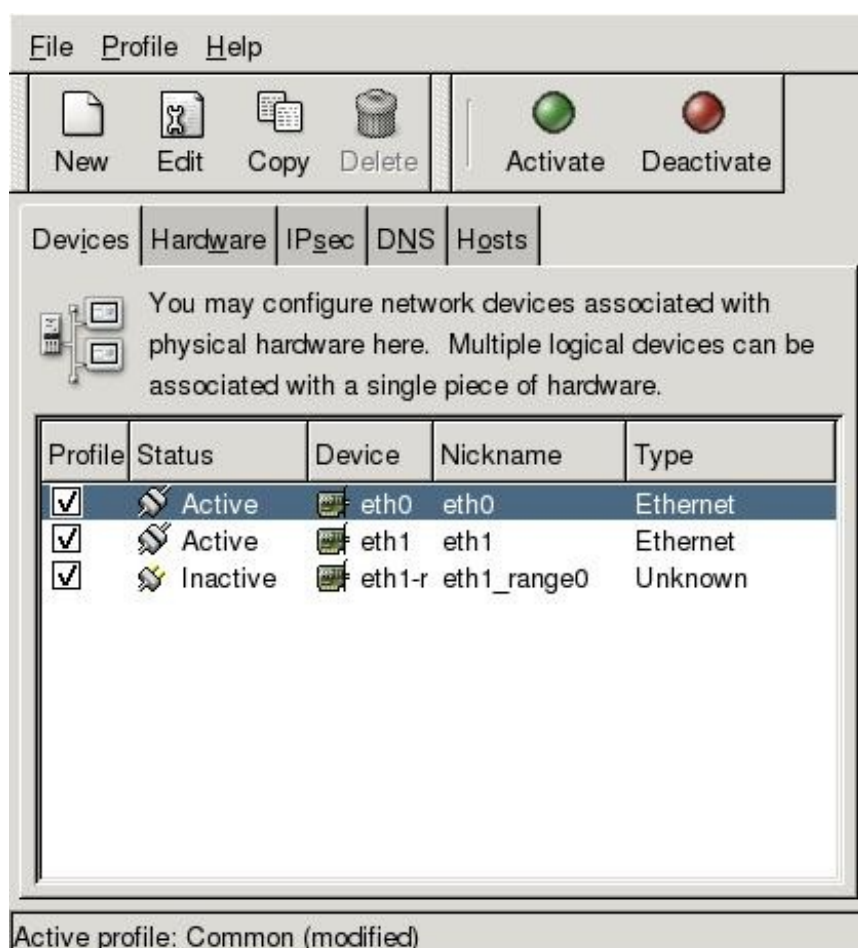
(3) Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) 3/4/5

Note: If you are using Debian or Ubuntu Linux, please see [this configuration](#) <sup>[2]</sup> howto.

### Method # 1: GUI tool system-config-network

Type the following command at shell prompt (open x terminal):

```
$ system-config-network &
```



You will see Window as above. Now **select your Ethernet card** (eth0 or eth1) and click on **Edit** button. You can now setup IP address, netmask, default gateway and other properties.

You can obtain IP address using DHCP or setup manually. Once IP address assigned, click on **Ok** button to save the changes. You can activate card by clicking on **Activate** button.

## Method # 2: Command line tool system-config-network-tui

If you don't have X windows GUI installed type the following command at shell prompt:

```
# system-config-network-tui &
```



[3]

(click to enlarge image)

You will see text based GUI as above. Select your Ethernet card (eth0 or eth1) and hit [Enter] or [F12] special key.



[4]

(click to enlarge image)

You can obtain IP address using DHCP or setup manually. Once IP address assigned, click on **Ok** button to save the changes

### Method #3: Edit configuration files stored in /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/

You can configure network card by editing text files stored in **/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/** directory. First change directory to **/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/**:

```
# cd /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/
```

You need to edit / create files as follows:

- **/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth0** : First Ethernet card configuration file
- **/etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth1** : Second Ethernet card configuration file

To edit/create first NIC file, type command:

```
# vi ifcfg-eth0
```

Append/modify as follows:

```
# Intel Corporation 82573E Gigabit Ethernet Controller (Copper)
DEVICE=eth0
BOOTPROTO=static
DHCPCLASS=
HWADDR=00:30:48:56:A6:2E
IPADDR=10.10.29.66
NETMASK=255.255.255.192
ONBOOT=yes
```

Save and close the file. Define default gateway (router IP) and hostname in **/etc/sysconfig/network** file:

```
# vi /etc/sysconfig/network
```

Append/modify configuration as follows:

```
NETWORKING=yes
HOSTNAME=www1.nixcraft.in
GATEWAY=10.10.29.65
```

Save and close the file. Restart networking:

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

Make sure you have correct DNS server defined in **/etc/resolv.conf** file:

```
# vi /etc/resolv.conf
```

Setup DNS Server as follows:

```
nameserver 10.0.80.11
nameserver 10.0.80.12
nameserver 202.67.222.222
```

Save and close the file. Now you can ping the gateway/other hosts:

```
$ ping 10.0.80.12
```

Output:

```
PING 10.0.80.12 (10.0.80.12) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.0.80.12: icmp_seq=1 ttl=251 time=0.972 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.80.12: icmp_seq=2 ttl=251 time=1.11 ms
```

You can also check for Internet connectivity with **nslookup** or **host** command:

```
$ nslookup cyberciti.biz
```

Output:

```
Server:      10.0.80.11
Address:     10.0.80.11#53

Non-authoritative answer:
Name:   cyberciti.biz
Address: 75.126.43.232
```

You can also use host command:

```
$ host nixcraft.in
```

Output:

```
nixcraft.in has address 75.126.43.232
nixcraft.in mail is handled by 10 mail.nixcraft.in.
```

See also

=> [Howto configure Ubuntu Linux/Debian Linux network configuration](#) <sup>[2]</sup>

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/redhat-and-friends/>

[2] this configuration: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/tips/howto-ubuntu-linux-convert-dhcp-network-configuration-to-static-ip-configuration.html>

[3] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/wp-content/uploads/2007/04/network-sysconfig-tui-0.jpg>

[4] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/wp-content/uploads/2007/04/network-sysconfig-tui-1.jpg>