

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents	1
-------------------------	---

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [Iptables](#)

Linux configure Network Address Translation or NAT

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. How do I configure Linux as a router to perform Network Address Translation (NAT) using iptables? I am using Cent OS.

A. NAT, also known as network masquerading, native address translation or IP-masquerading involves re-writing the source and/or destination addresses of IP packets as they pass through a router or firewall. Most systems using NAT do so in order to enable multiple hosts on a private network to access the Internet using a single public IP address. NAT is very popular because of IPv4 address shortage.

There are a few ways to set up a Linux machine to route. Iptables uses MASQUERADE targets. This is a special, restricted form of SNAT for dynamic IP addresses, such as most Internet service providers provide for modems or DSL.

Type following commands at shell prompt as root user:

```
# echo "1" > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward
# iptables -t nat -A POSTROUTING -o eth0 -j MASQUERADE
# /etc/init.d/iptables save
# iptables -L
```

You can refer this [previous article](#) ^[1] for more details.

4000+ howtos and counting! Want to read more Linux / UNIX howtos, tips and tricks? Subscribe to our [daily email](#) newsletter or [weekly newsletter](#) to make sure you don't miss a single tip/tricks. Alternatively, subscribe via [RSS/XML](#) feed.

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/>

URL to article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/howto-configure-network-address-translation-or-nat/>

URLs in this post:

[1] previous article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/linux-as-router-for-dsl-t1-line-etc.html>