Table Of Contents

nixCraft: Linux Tips, Hacks, Tutorials, And Ideas In Blog Format
http://www.cyberciti.biz/

Linux / UNIX: displays a calendar and the date of easter with cal command

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

[1]

Q. date command displays date and time under a shell? How do I display calendar under Linux or UNIX?

A. date displays the Linux or UNIX system current date and time. The cal command displays a simple calendar in traditional format and ncal offers an alternative layout, more options and the date of easter. The new format is a little cramped but it makes a year fit on a 25x80 terminal. If arguments are not specified, the current month is displayed.

cal command

Just enter cal command as follows:

```
$ cal
```

Output:

```
    August 2007
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
          1  2  3  4
 5  6  7  8  9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31
```

ncal command

ncal command changes the output format:

```
$ ncal
```

Output:

```
    August 2007
Mo     6 13 20 27
Tu     7 14 21 28
We  1  8 15 22 29
Th  2  9 16 23 30
Fr  3 10 17 24 31
Sa  4 11 18 25
Su  5 12 19 26
```

Print calendar for year 2008

```
$ cal 2008
```

Output:

```
                                2008

       January               February                March
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
       1  2  3  4  5                  1  2                     1
```

```
 6  7  8  9 10 11 12    3  4  5  6  7  8  9    2  3  4  5  6  7  8
13 14 15 16 17 18 19   10 11 12 13 14 15 16    9 10 11 12 13 14 15
20 21 22 23 24 25 26   17 18 19 20 21 22 23   16 17 18 19 20 21 22
27 28 29 30 31         24 25 26 27 28 29      23 24 25 26 27 28 29
                                              30 31

        April                  May                    June
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa   Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa   Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
       1  2  3  4  5                1  2  3    1  2  3  4  5  6  7
 6  7  8  9 10 11 12    4  5  6  7  8  9 10    8  9 10 11 12 13 14
13 14 15 16 17 18 19   11 12 13 14 15 16 17   15 16 17 18 19 20 21
20 21 22 23 24 25 26   18 19 20 21 22 23 24   22 23 24 25 26 27 28
27 28 29 30            25 26 27 28 29 30 31   29 30

        July                   August                 September
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa   Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa   Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
       1  2  3  4  5                   1  2       1  2  3  4  5  6
 6  7  8  9 10 11 12    3  4  5  6  7  8  9    7  8  9 10 11 12 13
13 14 15 16 17 18 19   10 11 12 13 14 15 16   14 15 16 17 18 19 20
20 21 22 23 24 25 26   17 18 19 20 21 22 23   21 22 23 24 25 26 27
27 28 29 30 31         24 25 26 27 28 29 30   28 29 30
                       31
       October                November                December
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa   Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa   Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
          1  2  3  4                      1       1  2  3  4  5  6
 5  6  7  8  9 10 11    2  3  4  5  6  7  8    7  8  9 10 11 12 13
12 13 14 15 16 17 18    9 10 11 12 13 14 15   14 15 16 17 18 19 20
19 20 21 22 23 24 25   16 17 18 19 20 21 22   21 22 23 24 25 26 27
26 27 28 29 30 31      23 24 25 26 27 28 29   28 29 30 31
                       30
```

Print calendar for particular month and year

Use syntax as follows:
cal {month [1-12]} {year[1-9999]}
For example, display Jan-2007 calendar, enter:

```
$ cal 1 2007
```

Print the previous month

To print the previous month, the current month, and the next month all on one row, enter:

```
$ cal -3
```

Display Julian Calendar, if combined with the -e option, display date of easter according to the Julian Calendar.

```
$ cal -J
```

Display date of easter (for western churches)

```
$ cal -e
```

Print a calendar where Monday is the first day of the week, as opposed to Sunday.

```
$ cal -m
```

Display Julian days (days one-based, numbered from January 1).

```
$ cal -j
```

Display date of orthodox easter (Greek and Russian Orthodox Churches).

```
$ cal -o
```

Print the country codes and switching days from Julian to Gregorian Calendar as they are assumed by ncal. The country code as determined from the local environment is marked with an asterisk.

```
$ cal -p
```

Print the number of the week below each week column.

```
cal -w
```

Display a calendar for the current year.

```
$ cal -y
```