Table Of Contents

Home > Faq > Debian / Ubuntu

How do I save iptables rules or settings?

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Q. I am using GUI tool to setup rules for my home computer connected to ADSL (DSL/Cable) network. However after reboot my rules are not there. Is there any way I can save and load them again.

[1]

A. You need to use iptables-save command which is used to dump the contents of an IP Table in easily parseable format to screen. Using I/O-redirection provided by your shell you can save iptables firewall rules to a file.

Next time when you want to restore iptables rules use iptables-restore command. It is used to restore IP Tables from data specified from file. Use I/O redirection provided by your shell to read from a file.

Example

For example, save current iptables firewall rules:

```
# iptables-save > /root/dsl.fw
```

To restore iptables rules:

```
# iptables-restore < /root/dsl.fw
```

Redhat/Fedora core linux

To restore rules automatically upon Linux system reboot add following command to your /etc/rc.local (if you are using Fedora or Red Hat Linux):

```
# vi /etc/rc.local
```

Append the line:

```
iptables-restore < /root/dsl.fw
```

Save the file. Please note that under Red Hat enterprise Linux you can use following commands:
To Save the rules to /etc/sysconfig/iptables file:

```
# /etc/init.d/iptables save
```

To Restore the rules from /etc/sysconfig/iptables file:

```
# /etc/init.d/iptables start
```

If you are using Debian Linux open /etc/network/interfaces:

```
# vi /etc/network/interfaces
```

Append the line to eth0 section:
post-up iptables-restore

Close and save the file. Reboot the system.

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/how-do-i-save-iptables-rules-or-settings/**

URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/debian-ubuntu/**