Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents	•
Open port 80	
Open port 110	
Open port 143	
Restart iptables service	
Verify that port is open	

Open port 80 2/3

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Home > Faq > Iptables

Redhat / CentOS / Fedora Linux Open Port

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Q. I've Redhat Enterprise Linux 5 server with lptabeles firewall enabled. By default it is only allowing port 22. How do I open port 80 / 143 / 110 on Linux? I've started all services but don't know how to open port using iptables.



A. By default iptables firewall stores its configuration at /etc/sysconfig/iptables file. You need to edit this file and add rules to open port number. This file only avilable under

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 3 / 4 / 5 and above

- => Old Red hat Linux version
- => CentOS 4 and above
- => Fedora Linux

Open port 80

Open file /etc/sysconfig/iptables:

vi /etc/sysconfig/iptables

Append rule as follows:

```
-A RH-Firewall-1-INPUT -m state --state NEW -m tcp -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
```

Save and close the file. Restart iptables:

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

Open port 110

Append rule as follows:

```
-A RH-Firewall-1-INPUT -m state --state NEW -m tcp -p tcp --dport 110 -j ACCEPT
```

Open port 143

Append rule as follows:

```
-A RH-Firewall-1-INPUT -m state --state NEW -m tcp -p tcp --dport 143 -j ACCEPT
```

Restart iptables service

Type the following command:

```
# service iptables restart
```

Verify that port is open

Run following command:

```
netstat -tulpn | less
```

Make sure iptables is allowing port 80 / 110 / 143 connections:

```
iptables -L -n
```

Refer to iptables man page for more information about iptables usage and syntax:

Open port 80 3/3

man iptables

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