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Iptables: Unblock / Delete an IP Address Listed in IPtables Tables

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Q. I am a brand new user of a Linux iptables and I can't find how to instruct my iptables to delete or unblock an IP address listed in iptables firewall. I'm using Debian Linux version. Can you help please?

A. Iptables is used to set up, maintain, and inspect the tables of IP packet filter rules in the Linux kernel. You can delete one or more rules from the selected chain. There are two versions of this command: the rule can be specified as a number in the chain (starting at 1 for the first rule) or a rule to match.
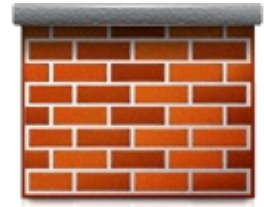
[1]

List existing chains

Type the following command to list current IPs in tables:

```
iptables -L -n
iptables -L -n -v
iptables -L chain-name -n -v
iptables -L spamips -n -v
```

List existing chains with line number

To display line number along with other information, enter:

```
iptables -L INPUT -n --line-numbers
iptables -L OUTPUT -n --line-numbers
iptables -L OUTPUT -n --line-numbers | less
iptables -L spamips -n -v --line-numbers
iptables -L spamips -n -v --line-numbers | grep 202.54.1.2
```

```
Chain droplist (3 references)
num   pkts bytes target     prot opt in     out     source               destination
1        0     0 LOG        0    --  *      *       116.199.128.0/19     0.0.0.0/0
2        0     0 DROP       0    --  *      *       116.199.128.0/19     0.0.0.0/0
3        0     0 LOG        0    --  *      *       116.50.8.0/21        0.0.0.0/0
4        0     0 DROP       0    --  *      *       116.50.8.0/21        0.0.0.0/0
5        0     0 LOG        0    --  *      *       128.199.0.0/16       0.0.0.0/0
6        0     0 DROP       0    --  *      *       128.199.0.0/16       0.0.0.0/0
7        0     0 LOG        0    --  *      *       132.232.0.0/16       0.0.0.0/0
8        0     0 DROP       0    --  *      *       132.232.0.0/16       0.0.0.0/0
9      342 23317 LOG        0    --  *      *       134.175.0.0/16       0.0.0.0/0
10     342 23317 DROP       0    --  *      *       134.175.0.0/16       0.0.0.0/0
11       0     0 LOG        0    --  *      *       134.33.0.0/16        0.0.0.0/0
```

You will get the list of all blocked IP. Look at the number on the left, then use number to delete it. For example delete line number 10 (subner 134.175.0.0/16), enter:

```
iptables -D INPUT 10
```

You can also use the following syntax to delete / unblock an IP use the following syntax:

```
iptables -D INPUT -s xx.xxx.xx.xx -j DROP
iptables -D INPUT -s xx.xxx.xx.xx/yy -j DROP
iptables -D spamlist -s 202.54.1.2 -d 0/0 -j DROP
iptables -D spamlist -s 202.54.1.2/29 -d 0/0 -j DROP
```

On a related note I recommend getting a good Linux command line and netfilter Firewall (iptables) book to understand

all technical mumbo jumbo.

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