



22 Linux Networking Commands for Sysadmin

Aaron Kili | Last Updated: July 13, 2023 | Read Time: 17 mins | [Linux Commands, Networking Commands](#)
| [10 Comments](#)

A system administrator's routine tasks include configuring, maintaining, troubleshooting, and managing servers and networks within data centers. There are numerous tools and utilities in Linux designed for administrative purposes.

In this article, we will review some of the most used command-line tools and utilities for network management in Linux, under different categories. We will explain some common usage examples, which will make network management much easier in Linux.

On this page

- [ifconfig Command](#)
- [ip Command](#)
- [ifup Command](#)
- [ethtool Command](#)
- [ping Command](#)
- [traceroute Command](#)
- [mtr Command](#)
- [route Command](#)
- [nmcli Command](#)
- [netstat Command](#)
- [ss Command](#)
- [nc Command](#)
- [nmap Command](#)

- [host Command](#)
- [dig Command](#)
- [nslookup Command](#)
- [tcpdump Command](#)
- [Wireshark Utility](#)
- [bmon Tool](#)
- [iptables Firewall](#)
- [firewalld](#)
- [UFW Firewall](#)

This list is equally useful to full-time Linux network engineers.

Network Configuration, Troubleshooting, and Debugging Tools

1. ifconfig Command

[ifconfig](#) is a command-line interface tool for network interface configuration and is also used to initialize interfaces at system boot time. Once a server is up and running, it can be used to assign an IP Address to an interface and enable or disable the interface on demand.

It is also used to view the IP Address, Hardware / MAC address, as well as MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit) size of the currently active interfaces. ifconfig is thus useful for debugging or performing system tuning.

Here is an example to display the status of all active network interfaces.

```
$ ifconfig

enp1s0    Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 28:d2:44:eb:bd:98
          inet addr:192.168.0.103  Bcast:192.168.0.255  Mask:255.255.255.0
          inet6 addr: fe80::8f0c:7825:8057:5eec/64 Scope:Link
          UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST  MTU:1500  Metric:1
          RX packets:169854 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
```

```
TX packets:125995 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:174146270 (174.1 MB) TX bytes:21062129 (21.0 MB)

lo        Link encap:Local Loopback
          inet addr:127.0.0.1  Mask:255.0.0.0
          inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
          UP LOOPBACK RUNNING  MTU:65536  Metric:1
          RX packets:15793 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:15793 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1
          RX bytes:2898946 (2.8 MB) TX bytes:2898946 (2.8 MB)
```

To list all interfaces which are currently available, whether up or down, use the `-a` flag.

```
$ ifconfig -a
```

To assign an IP address to an interface, use the following command.

```
$ sudo ifconfig eth0 192.168.56.5 netmask 255.255.255.0
```

To activate a network interface, type.

```
$ sudo ifconfig up eth0
```

To deactivate or shut down a network interface, type.

```
$ sudo ifconfig down eth0
```

Note: Although `ifconfig` is a great tool, it is now obsolete (deprecated), its replacement is the `ip` command which is explained below.

2. IP Command

[ip command](#) is another useful command-line utility for displaying and manipulating routing, network devices, interfaces. It is a replacement for `ifconfig` and many other networking commands. (Read our article "[What's Difference Between ifconfig and ip Command](#)" to learn more about it.)

The following command will show the IP address and other information about a network interface.

```
$ ip addr show

1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group d
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 ::1/128 scope host
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: enp1s0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1500 qdisc pfifo_fast stat
    link/ether 28:d2:44:eb:bd:98 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
    inet 192.168.0.103/24 brd 192.168.0.255 scope global dynamic enp1s0
        valid_lft 5772sec preferred_lft 5772sec
    inet6 fe80::8f0c:7825:8057:5eec/64 scope link
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
3: wlp2s0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500 qdisc noop state DOWN group defau
    link/ether 38:b1:db:7c:78:c7 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
...

```

To temporarily assign IP Address to a specific network interface (`eth0`), type.

```
$ sudo ip addr add 192.168.56.1 dev eth0
```

To remove an assigned IP address from a network interface (`eth0`), type.

```
$ sudo ip addr del 192.168.56.15/24 dev eth0
```

To show the current neighbor table in the kernel, type.

```
$ ip neigh  
  
192.168.0.1 dev enp1s0 lladdr 10:fe:ed:3d:f3:82 REACHABLE
```

3. ifup, ifdown, and ifquery command

ifup command activates a network interface, making it available to transfer and receive data.

```
$ sudo ifup eth0
```

ifdown command disables a network interface, keeping it in a state where it cannot transfer or receive data.

```
$ sudo ifdown eth0
```

ifquery command used to parse the network interface configuration, enabling you to receive answers to query about how it is currently configured.

```
$ sudo ifquery eth0
```

4. Ethtool Command

ethtool is a command-line utility for querying and modifying network interface controller parameters and device drivers. The example below shows the usage of ethtool and a command to view the parameters for the network interface.

```
$ sudo ethtool enp0s3  
  
Settings for enp0s3:  
    Supported ports: [ TP ]  
    Supported link modes:   10baseT/Half 10baseT/Full
```

```
100baseT/Half 100baseT/Full
1000baseT/Full

Supported pause frame use: No
Supports auto-negotiation: Yes
Advertised link modes: 10baseT/Half 10baseT/Full
                        100baseT/Half 100baseT/Full
                        1000baseT/Full

Advertised pause frame use: No
Advertised auto-negotiation: Yes
Speed: 1000Mb/s
Duplex: Full
Port: Twisted Pair
PHYAD: 0
Transceiver: internal
Auto-negotiation: on
MDI-X: off (auto)
Supports Wake-on: umbg
Wake-on: d
Current message level: 0x00000007 (7)
                        drv probe link

Link detected: yes
```

5. Ping Command

[ping](#) (Packet Internet Groper) is a utility normally used for testing connectivity between two systems on a network (Local Area Network (LAN) or Wide Area Network (WAN)). It uses ICMP (Internet Control Message Protocol) to communicate to nodes on a network.

To test connectivity to another node, simply provide its IP or hostname, for example.

```
$ ping 192.168.0.103
```

```
PING 192.168.0.103 (192.168.0.103) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.191 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.156 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.179 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.182 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.207 ms
```

```
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=6 ttl=64 time=0.157 ms
^C
--- 192.168.0.103 ping statistics ---
6 packets transmitted, 6 received, 0% packet loss, time 5099ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.156/0.178/0.207/0.023 ms
```

You can also tell ping to exit after a specified number of ECHO_REQUEST packets, using the `-c` flag as shown.

```
$ ping -c 4 192.168.0.103

PING 192.168.0.103 (192.168.0.103) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=1.09 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.157 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.163 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.0.103: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.190 ms

--- 192.168.0.103 ping statistics ---
4 packets transmitted, 4 received, 0% packet loss, time 3029ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.157/0.402/1.098/0.402 ms
```

6. Traceroute Command

Traceroute is a command-line utility for tracing the full path from your local system to another network system. It prints a number of hops (router IPs) in that path you travel to reach the end server. It is an easy-to-use network troubleshooting utility after the ping command.

In this example, we are tracing the route packets take from the local system to one of Google's servers with IP address 216.58.204.46.

```
$ traceroute 216.58.204.46

traceroute to 216.58.204.46 (216.58.204.46), 30 hops max, 60 byte packets
 1  gateway (192.168.0.1)  0.487 ms  0.277 ms  0.269 ms
 2  5.5.5.215 (5.5.5.215)  1.846 ms  1.631 ms  1.553 ms
 3  * * *
```

```

4 72.14.194.226 (72.14.194.226) 3.762 ms 3.683 ms 3.577 ms
5 108.170.248.179 (108.170.248.179) 4.666 ms 108.170.248.162 (108.170.24
6 72.14.235.133 (72.14.235.133) 72.443 ms 209.85.241.175 (209.85.241.175
7 66.249.94.140 (66.249.94.140) 128.726 ms 127.506 ms 209.85.248.5 (209
8 74.125.251.181 (74.125.251.181) 127.219 ms 108.170.236.124 (108.170.23
9 216.239.49.134 (216.239.49.134) 236.906 ms 209.85.242.80 (209.85.242.8
10 209.85.251.138 (209.85.251.138) 252.002 ms 216.239.43.227 (216.239.43.
11 216.239.43.227 (216.239.43.227) 251.452 ms 72.14.234.8 (72.14.234.8)
12 209.85.250.9 (209.85.250.9) 274.521 ms 274.450 ms 209.85.253.249 (209
13 209.85.250.9 (209.85.250.9) 269.147 ms 209.85.254.244 (209.85.254.244)
14 64.233.175.112 (64.233.175.112) 344.852 ms 216.239.57.236 (216.239.57.
15 108.170.246.129 (108.170.246.129) 345.054 ms 345.342 ms 64.233.175.11
16 108.170.238.119 (108.170.238.119) 345.610 ms 108.170.246.161 (108.170.
17 lhr25s12-in-f46.1e100.net (216.58.204.46) 345.382 ms 345.031 ms 344.

```

7. MTR Network Diagnostic Tool

[MTR](#) is a modern command-line network diagnostic tool that combines the functionality of ping and traceroute into a single diagnostic tool. Its output is updated in real-time, by default until you exit the program by pressing **q**.

The easiest way of running mtr is to provide it a hostname or IP address as an argument, as follows.

```

$ mtr google.com
OR
$ mtr 216.58.223.78

```

Sample Output

```

tecmint.com (0.0.0.0) Thu Jul 12 08:58:27
First TTL: 1

Host Loss% Snt Last
1. 192.168.0.1 0.0% 41 0.5
2. 5.5.5.215 0.0% 40 1.9

```


3.	209.snaf-111-91-120.hns.net.in	23.1%	40	1.9
4.	72.14.194.226	0.0%	40	89.1
5.	108.170.248.193	0.0%	40	3.0
6.	108.170.237.43	0.0%	40	2.9
7.	bom07s10-in-f174.1e100.net	0.0%	40	2.6

You can limit the number of pings to a specific value and exit mtr after those pings, using the `-c` flag as shown.

```
$ mtr -c 4 google.com
```

8. Route Command

The `route` is a command-line utility for displaying or manipulating the IP routing table of a Linux system. It is mainly used to configure static routes to specific hosts or networks via an interface.

You can view the Kernel IP routing table by typing.

```
$ route
```

Destination	Gateway	Genmask	Flags	Metric	Ref	Use	Ifa
default	gateway	0.0.0.0	UG	100	0	0	enp
192.168.0.0	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.0	U	100	0	0	enp
192.168.122.0	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.0	U	0	0	0	vir

There are numerous commands you can use to configure routing. Here are some useful ones:

Add a default gateway to the routing table.

```
$ sudo route add default gw <gateway-ip>
```

Add a network route to the routing table.

```
$ sudo route add -net <network ip/cidr> gw <gateway ip> <interface>
```

Delete a specific route entry from the routing table.

```
$ sudo route del -net <network ip/cidr>
```

9. Nmcli Command

[Nmcli](#) is an easy-to-use, scriptable command-line tool to report network status, manage network connections, and control the NetworkManager.

To view all your network devices, type.

```
$ nmcli dev status
```

DEVICE	TYPE	STATE	CONNECTION
virbr0	bridge	connected	virbr0
enp0s3	ethernet	connected	Wired connection 1

To check network connections on your system, type.

```
$ nmcli con show
```

Wired connection 1	bc3638ff-205a-3bbb-8845-5a4b0f7eef91	802-3-ethernet	e
virbr0	00f5d53e-fd51-41d3-b069-bdfd2dde062b	bridge	v

To see only the active connections, add the `-a` flag.

```
$ nmcli con show -a
```

Network Scanning and Performance Analysis Tools

10. Netstat Command

[netstat](#) is a command-line tool that displays useful information such as network connections, routing tables, interface statistics, and much more, concerning the Linux networking subsystem. It is useful for network troubleshooting and performance analysis.

Additionally, it is also a fundamental network service debugging tool used to check which programs are listening on what ports. For instance, the following command will show all TCP ports in listening mode and what programs are listening on them.

```
$ sudo netstat -tnlp
```

Active Internet connections (only servers)

Proto	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address	Foreign Address	State
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:587	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:5003	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:110	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:143	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:111	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:465	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:53	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:21	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:22	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	127.0.0.1:631	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:25	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:8090	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:993	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp	0	0	0.0.0.0:995	0.0.0.0:*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::3306	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::3307	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::587	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::110	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::143	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::111	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::80	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::465	:::*	LISTEN
tcp6	0	0	:::53	:::*	LISTEN

```

tcp6      0      0 :::21                :::*                  LISTEN
tcp6      0      0 :::22                :::*                  LISTEN
tcp6      0      0 :::1:631              :::*                  LISTEN
tcp6      0      0 :::25                :::*                  LISTEN
tcp6      0      0 :::993                :::*                  LISTEN
tcp6      0      0 :::995                :::*                  LISTEN

```

To view the kernel routing table, use the `-r` flag (which is equivalent to running the `route` command above).

```
$ netstat -r
```

Destination	Gateway	Genmask	Flags	MSS	Window	irtt	If
default	gateway	0.0.0.0	UG	0	0	0	en
192.168.0.0	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.0	U	0	0	0	en
192.168.122.0	0.0.0.0	255.255.255.0	U	0	0	0	vi

Note: Although Netstat is a great tool, it is now obsolete (deprecated), its replacement is the `ss` command which is explained below.

11. ss Command

[ss \(socket statistics\)](#) is a powerful command-line utility to investigate sockets. It dumps socket statistics and displays information similar to `netstat`. In addition, it shows more TCP and state information compared to other similar utilities.

The following example shows how to list all TCP ports (sockets) that are open on a server.

```
$ ss -ta
```

State	Recv-Q	Send-Q	Local Address
LISTEN	0	100	
LISTEN	0	128	127.0.0.1
LISTEN	0	100	
LISTEN	0	100	

```
LISTEN      0      128
LISTEN      0      100
LISTEN      0      128
LISTEN      0      9
LISTEN      0      128
LISTEN      0      128                127.0.0.1
LISTEN      0      100
LISTEN      0      128
LISTEN      0      100
LISTEN      0      100
ESTAB       0      0                192.168.0.1
ESTAB       0      0                127.0.0.1
ESTAB       0      0                127.0.0.1
ESTAB       0      0                127.0.0.1
ESTAB       0      0                127.0.0.1
LISTEN      0      80
...
```

To display all active TCP connections together with their timers, run the following command.

```
$ ss -to
```

12. NC Command

[NC \(NetCat\)](#) also referred to as the “Network Swiss Army knife”, is a powerful utility used for almost any task related to TCP, UDP, or UNIX-domain sockets. It is used to open TCP connections, listen on arbitrary TCP and UDP ports, perform port scanning plus more.

You can also use it as a simple TCP proxy, for network daemon testing, to check if remote ports are reachable, and much more. Furthermore, you can employ nc together with [pv command](#) to transfer files between two computers.

[You might also like: [8 Netcat \(nc\) Command with Examples](#)]

The following example will show how to scan a list of ports.

```
$ nc -zv server2.tecmint.lan 21 22 80 443 3000
```

You can also specify a range of ports as shown.

```
$ nc -zv server2.tecmint.lan 20-90
```

The following example shows how to use `nc` to open a TCP connection to port 5000 on `server2.tecmint.lan`, using port 3000 as the source port, with a timeout of 10 seconds.

```
$ nc -p 3000 -w 10 server2.tecmint.lan 5000
```

13. Nmap Command

[Nmap](#) (Network Mapper) is a powerful and extremely versatile tool for Linux system/network administrators. It is used to gather information about a single host or explores networks an entire network. Nmap is also used to perform security scans, network audits and finding open ports on remote hosts and so much more.

You can scan a host using its hostname or IP address, for instance.

```
$ nmap google.com
```

```
Starting Nmap 6.40 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2018-07-12 09:23 BST
```

```
Nmap scan report for google.com (172.217.166.78)
```

```
Host is up (0.0036s latency).
```

```
rDNS record for 172.217.166.78: bom05s15-in-f14.1e100.net
```

```
Not shown: 998 filtered ports
```

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE
```

```
80/tcp    open  http
```

```
443/tcp   open  https
```

```
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 4.92 seconds
```

Alternatively, use an IP address as shown.

```
$ nmap 192.168.0.103

Starting Nmap 6.40 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2018-07-12 09:24 BST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.0.103
Host is up (0.000051s latency).
Not shown: 994 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
25/tcp    open  smtp
902/tcp   open  iss-realsecure
4242/tcp  open  vrml-multi-use
5900/tcp  open  vnc
8080/tcp  open  http-proxy
MAC Address: 28:D2:44:EB:BD:98 (Lcfc(hefei) Electronics Technology Co.)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.13 seconds
```

Read our following useful articles on the nmap command.

1. [How to Use Nmap Script Engine \(NSE\) Scripts in Linux](#)
2. [A Practical Guide to Nmap \(Network Security Scanner\) in Kali Linux](#)
3. [Find Out All Live Hosts IP Addresses Connected on Network in Linux](#)

DNS Lookup Utilities

14. host Command

[host command](#) is a simple utility for carrying out DNS lookups, it translates hostnames to IP addresses and vice versa.

```
$ host google.com

google.com has address 172.217.166.78
google.com mail is handled by 20 alt1.aspmx.l.google.com.
google.com mail is handled by 30 alt2.aspmx.l.google.com.
google.com mail is handled by 40 alt3.aspmx.l.google.com.
```

```
google.com mail is handled by 50 alt4.aspmx.l.google.com.  
google.com mail is handled by 10 aspmx.l.google.com.
```

15. dig Command

[dig](#) (domain information groper) is also another simple DNS lookup utility, that is used to query DNS related information such as A Record, CNAME, MX Record etc, for example:

```
$ dig google.com  
  
; <<>> DiG 9.9.4-RedHat-9.9.4-51.el7 <<>> google.com  
;; global options: +cmd  
;; Got answer:  
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 23083  
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 13, ADDITIONAL: 14  
  
;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:  
; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 4096  
;; QUESTION SECTION:  
;google.com.                IN      A  
  
;; ANSWER SECTION:  
google.com.                 72      IN      A      172.217.166.78  
  
;; AUTHORITY SECTION:  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      c.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      d.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      e.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      f.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      g.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      h.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      i.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      j.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      k.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      l.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      m.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      a.gtld-servers.net.  
com.                        13482   IN      NS      b.gtld-servers.net.
```



```
;; ADDITIONAL SECTION:
a.gtld-servers.net.      81883   IN      A       192.5.6.30
b.gtld-servers.net.      3999    IN      A       192.33.14.30
c.gtld-servers.net.      14876   IN      A       192.26.92.30
d.gtld-servers.net.      85172   IN      A       192.31.80.30
e.gtld-servers.net.      95861   IN      A       192.12.94.30
f.gtld-servers.net.      78471   IN      A       192.35.51.30
g.gtld-servers.net.      5217    IN      A       192.42.93.30
h.gtld-servers.net.      111531  IN      A       192.54.112.30
i.gtld-servers.net.      93017   IN      A       192.43.172.30
j.gtld-servers.net.      93542   IN      A       192.48.79.30
k.gtld-servers.net.      107218  IN      A       192.52.178.30
l.gtld-servers.net.      6280    IN      A       192.41.162.30
m.gtld-servers.net.      2689    IN      A       192.55.83.30

;; Query time: 4 msec
;; SERVER: 192.168.0.1#53(192.168.0.1)
;; WHEN: Thu Jul 12 09:30:57 BST 2018
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 487
```

16. NSLookup Command

[Nslookup](#) is also a popular command-line utility to query DNS servers both interactively and non-interactively. It is used to query DNS resource records (RR). You can find out the "A" record (IP address) of a domain as shown.

```
$ nslookup google.com

Server:          192.168.0.1
Address:         192.168.0.1#53

Non-authoritative answer:
Name:   google.com
Address: 172.217.166.78
```

You can also perform a reverse domain lookup as shown.

```
$ nslookup 216.58.208.174

Server:                192.168.0.1
Address:               192.168.0.1#53

Non-authoritative answer:
174.208.58.216.in-addr.arpa      name = lhr25s09-in-f14.1e100.net.
174.208.58.216.in-addr.arpa      name = lhr25s09-in-f174.1e100.net.

Authoritative answers can be found from:
in-addr.arpa      nameserver = e.in-addr-servers.arpa.
in-addr.arpa      nameserver = f.in-addr-servers.arpa.
in-addr.arpa      nameserver = a.in-addr-servers.arpa.
in-addr.arpa      nameserver = b.in-addr-servers.arpa.
in-addr.arpa      nameserver = c.in-addr-servers.arpa.
in-addr.arpa      nameserver = d.in-addr-servers.arpa.
a.in-addr-servers.arpa  internet address = 199.180.182.53
b.in-addr-servers.arpa  internet address = 199.253.183.183
c.in-addr-servers.arpa  internet address = 196.216.169.10
d.in-addr-servers.arpa  internet address = 200.10.60.53
e.in-addr-servers.arpa  internet address = 203.119.86.101
f.in-addr-servers.arpa  internet address = 193.0.9.1
```

Linux Network Packet Analyzers

17. Tcpdump Command

[Tcpdump](#) is a very powerful and widely used command-line network sniffer. It is used to capture and analyze TCP/IP packets transmitted or received over a network on a specific interface.

To capture packets from a given interface, specify it using the `-i` option.

```
$ tcpdump -i eth1

tcpdump: verbose output suppressed, use -v or -vv for full protocol decode
listening on enp0s3, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), capture size 262144 bytes
09:35:40.287439 IP tecmint.com.ssh > 192.168.0.103.36398: Flags [P.], seq 4
```

```
09:35:40.287655 IP 192.168.0.103.36398 > tecmint.com.ssh: Flags [.], ack 19
09:35:40.288269 IP tecmint.com.54899 > gateway.domain: 43760+ PTR? 103.0.16
09:35:40.333763 IP gateway.domain > tecmint.com.54899: 43760 NXDomain* 0/1/
09:35:40.335311 IP tecmint.com.52036 > gateway.domain: 44289+ PTR? 1.0.168.
```

To capture a specific number of packets, use the `-c` option to enter the desired number.

```
$ tcpdump -c 5 -i eth1
```

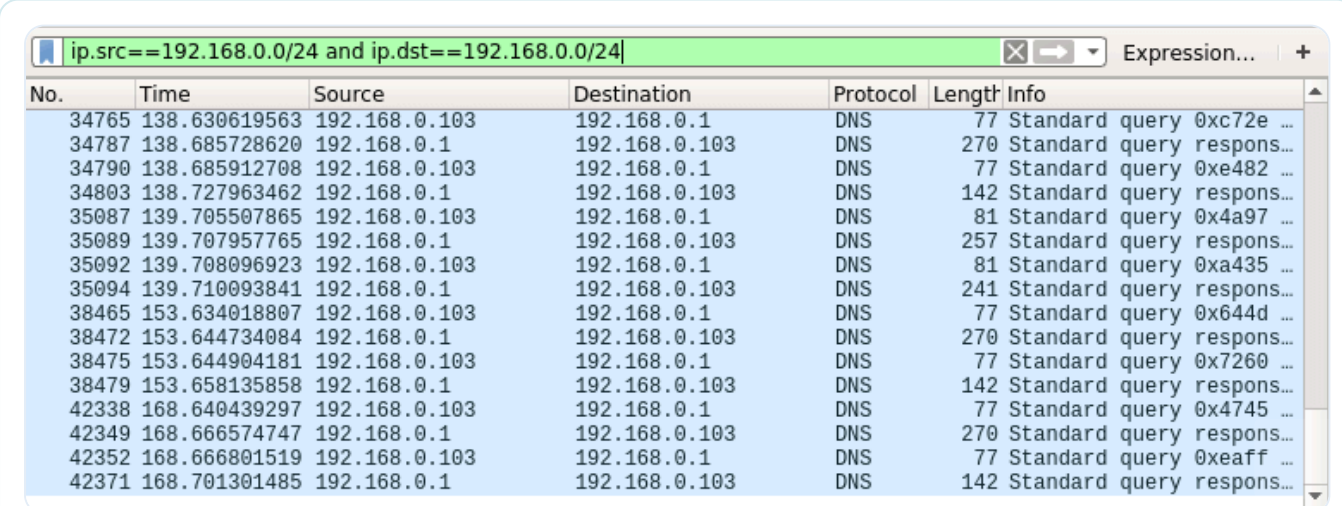
You can also capture and save packets to a file for later analysis, use the `-w` flag to specify the output file.

```
$ tcpdump -w captured.pacs -i eth1
```

18. Wireshark Utility

[Wireshark](#) is a popular, powerful, versatile, and easy-to-use tool for capturing and analyzing packets in a packet-switched network, in real-time.

You can also save data it has captured to a file for later inspection. It is used by system administrators and network engineers to monitor and inspect the packets for security and troubleshooting purposes.



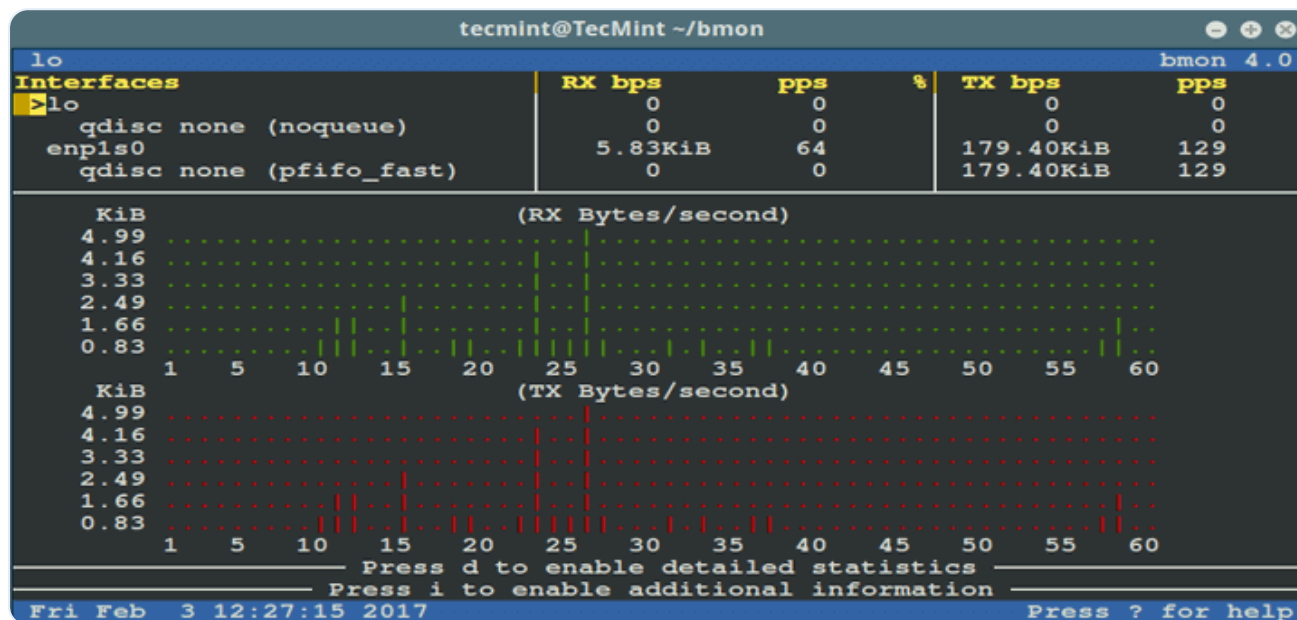
The screenshot shows the Wireshark interface with a packet capture filter applied: `ip.src==192.168.0.0/24 and ip.dst==192.168.0.0/24`. The packet list displays 18 captured packets, all of which are DNS queries and responses between 192.168.0.103 and 192.168.0.1.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
34765	138.630619563	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	77	Standard query 0xc72e ...
34787	138.685728620	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	270	Standard query respons...
34790	138.685912708	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	77	Standard query 0xe482 ...
34803	138.727963462	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	142	Standard query respons...
35087	139.705507865	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	81	Standard query 0x4a97 ...
35089	139.707957765	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	257	Standard query respons...
35092	139.708096923	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	81	Standard query 0xa435 ...
35094	139.710093841	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	241	Standard query respons...
38465	153.634018807	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	77	Standard query 0x644d ...
38472	153.644734084	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	270	Standard query respons...
38475	153.644904181	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	77	Standard query 0x7260 ...
38479	153.658135858	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	142	Standard query respons...
42338	168.640439297	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	77	Standard query 0x4745 ...
42349	168.666574747	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	270	Standard query respons...
42352	168.666801519	192.168.0.103	192.168.0.1	DNS	77	Standard query 0xeaff ...
42371	168.701301485	192.168.0.1	192.168.0.103	DNS	142	Standard query respons...

Monitor Local Network Traffic

19. Bmon Tool

[bmon](#) is a powerful, command line-based network monitoring and debugging utility for Unix-like systems, it captures networking-related statistics and prints them visually in a human-friendly format. It is a reliable and effective real-time bandwidth monitor and rate estimator.



bmon – Linux Network Bandwidth Monitoring

Linux Firewall Management Tools

20. Iptables Firewall

[iptables](#) is a command-line tool for configuring, maintaining, and inspecting the tables IP packet filtering and NAT ruleset. It is used to set up and manage the Linux firewall (Netfilter). It allows you to list existing packet filter rules; add or delete or modify packet filter rules; list per-rule counters of the packet filter rules.

You can learn how to use Iptables for various purposes from our simple yet comprehensive guides.

1. [Basic Guide on IPTables \(Linux Firewall\) Tips / Commands](#)
2. [25 Useful IPtable Firewall Rules Every Linux Administrator Should Know](#)
3. [How To Setup an Iptables Firewall to Enable Remote Access to Services](#)
4. [How to Block Ping ICMP Requests to Linux Systems](#)

21. FirewallD

[Firewalld](#) is a powerful and dynamic daemon to manage the Linux firewall (Netfilter), just like iptables. It uses “networks zones” instead of INPUT, OUTPUT, and FORWARD CHAINS in iptables. On current Linux distributions such as RHEL/CentOS 7 and Fedora 21+, iptables is actively being replaced by firewalld.

To get started with firewalld, consult these guides listed below:

1. [Useful ‘Firewalld’ Rules to Configure and Manage Firewall in Linux](#)
2. [How to Configure ‘Firewalld’ in RHEL/CentOS 7 and Fedora 21](#)
3. [How to Start/Stop and Enable/Disable FirewallD and Iptables Firewall in Linux](#)
4. [Setting Up Samba and Configure FirewallD and SELinux to Allow File Sharing on Linux/Windows](#)

Important: Iptables is still supported and can be installed with the [YUM package manager](#). However, you can’t use Firewalld and iptables at the same time on the same server – you must choose one.

22. UFW (Uncomplicated Firewall)

[UFW](#) is a well-known and default firewall configuration tool on Debian and Ubuntu Linux distributions. It is used to enable/disable system firewall, add/delete/modify/reset packet filtering rules, and much more.

To check UFW firewall status, type.

```
$ sudo ufw status
```

If the UFW firewall is not active, you can activate or enable it using the following command.

```
$ sudo ufw enable
```

To disable the UFW firewall, use the following command.

```
$ sudo ufw disable
```

Read our article [How to Setup UFW Firewall on Ubuntu and Debian](#).

If you want to find more information about a particular program, you can consult its man pages as shown.

```
$ man programs_name
```

That's all for now! In this comprehensive guide, we reviewed some of the most used command-line tools and utilities for network management in Linux, under different categories, for system administrators, and equally useful to full-time network administrators/engineers.

You can share your thoughts about this guide via the comment form below. If we have missed any frequently used and important Linux networking tools/utilities or any useful related information, also let us know.

🔖 [linux network monitoring](#), [linux networking tools](#)

Hey TecMint readers,

Exciting news! Every month, our top blog commenters will have the chance to win fantastic rewards, like free Linux eBooks such as RHCE, RHCSA, LFCS, Learn Linux, and Awk, each worth \$20!

Learn [more about the contest](#) and stand a chance to win by [sharing your thoughts below!](#)

GIVEAWAY!

Win eBooks



www.tecmint.com

PREVIOUS ARTICLE:

[Secure Apache with Let's Encrypt Certificate on Rocky Linux](#)

NEXT ARTICLE:

[How to Install Ubuntu Alongside With Windows in Dual-Boot](#)



Aaron Kili

Aaron Kili is a Linux and F.O.S.S enthusiast, an upcoming Linux SysAdmin, web developer, and currently a content creator for TecMint who loves working with computers and strongly believes in sharing knowledge.

Each tutorial at TecMint is created by a team of experienced Linux system administrators so that it meets our high-quality standards.

Join the [TecMint Weekly Newsletter](#) (More Than 156,129 Linux Enthusiasts Have Subscribed)

Was this article helpful? Please [add a comment](#) or [buy me a coffee](#) to show your appreciation.

Related Posts

perform a trial run with no changes made

```
tecmint@TecMint ~ $ rsync -av --dry-run --update testing/* tecmint@192.168.102:/home/tecmint/
tecmint@192.168.102's password:
sending incremental file list
do.awk
script.awk
second.awk

sent 126 bytes  received 25 bytes  43.14 bytes/sec
total size is 479  speedup is 3.17 (DRY RUN)
tecmint@TecMint ~ $
```

skip newer files on the Remote Server

Rsync – Sync New or Changed Files in Linux

How to Sync New and Changed Files Using 'rsync' Command

```
tecmint@tecmint ~/testing $ find . -type f \( -name "*.txt" -o -
name "*.sh" -o -name "*.c" \)
./emails.txt
./script-1.sh
./header.c
./examples.txt
./script.sh
./expenses.txt
```

Find Multiple Filenames (File Extensions) Using 'find' Command in Linux

How to Search Files by Name or Extension Using find Command



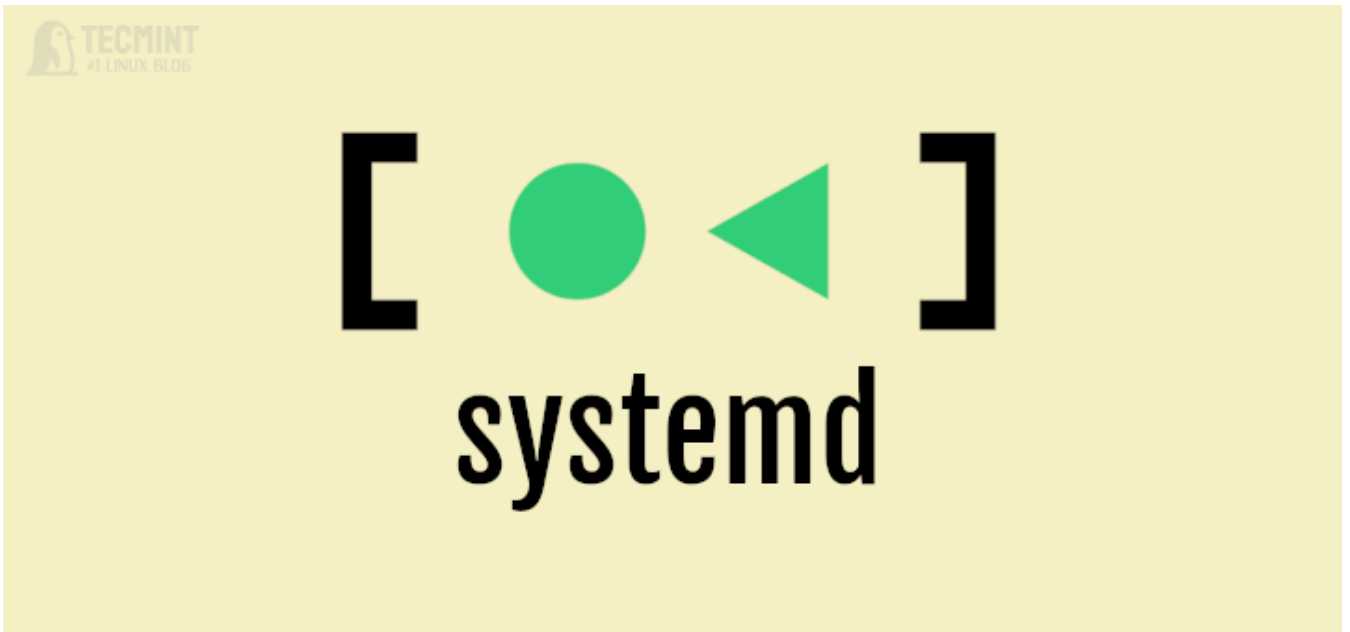
10 Lesser Known Linux Commands – Part 2



11 Lesser Known Useful Linux Commands



26 Security Hardening Tips for Modern Linux Servers



How to Remove Systemd Services on Linux

 **10 Comments**

[Leave a Reply](#)



Ribamar

February 3, 2021 at 3:42 am

Very good tutorial and very good site with good tutorials.

[Reply](#)

Tristan

May 31, 2020 at 4:59 am

About `ifconfig` you mentioned.

> Note: Although `ifconfig` is a great tool, it is now obsolete (deprecated), its replacement is `IP` command which is explained below.

Maybe it would be better to remove the `ifconfig` section? Because an old-time Linux user would probably know well about `ifconfig` anyway. Or if you think it is still useful to document about `ifconfig`, place the section AFTER `ip address` command + add the deprecation warning right before you begin to explain about `ifconfig`?

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili

June 1, 2020 at 12:21 pm

@Tristan

Okay, thanks for writing back, we will remove the `ifconfig` section.

[Reply](#)

Tristan

June 1, 2020 at 9:08 pm

Then maybe this would make sense to do the same for the `netstat` section. You said in the article "Note: Although Netstat is a great tool, it is now obsolete (deprecated), its replacement is `ss` command which is explained below". And maybe add a small sentence saying that `ifconfig` and `netstate` are deprecated and give link to your past articles on those commands.

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili

June 3, 2020 at 11:32 am

@Tristan

Oh yes, we are in the process of updating the article. We will identify all tools that need to be removed from here. Thanks for the useful feedback once again.

[Reply](#)

David

May 7, 2020 at 6:00 am

Thank you so much for this. I like how it is concise.

[Reply](#)

Emanuel Muza

May 1, 2020 at 1:24 pm

Thank for a nice and informative article. I had forgotten some of the networking tools so, now I have refreshed.

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili

May 4, 2020 at 10:27 pm

@Emanuel

We are glad that you find this article useful. Many thanks for writing back.

[Reply](#)

Sam

February 18, 2019 at 3:19 pm

Thanks for this article. I'm not the best when it comes to networking so I'm doing my part by self education.

[Reply](#)



Aaron Kili

May 4, 2020 at 10:28 pm

@Sam

You are most welcome, and many thanks for the useful feedback.

[Reply](#)

Got Something to Say? Join the Discussion...

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us. We appreciate your decision to leave a comment and value your contribution to the discussion. It's important to note that we moderate all comments in accordance with our [comment policy](#) to ensure a respectful and constructive conversation.

Rest assured that your email address will remain private and will not be published or shared with anyone. We prioritize the privacy and security of our users.



☐ Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment.

Post Comment

Do You Enjoy My Blog?

Support from readers like YOU keeps this blog running. Buying me a cup of coffee is a simple and affordable way to show your appreciation and help keep the posts coming!

[Buy Me a Coffee](#)

Linux Commands and Tools

[How to Add a New Disk Larger Than 2TB to An Existing Linux](#)

[How to Work with Date and Time in Bash Using date Command](#)

[How to Set and Unset Local, User and System Wide Environment Variables in Linux](#)

[10 Lesser Known Linux Commands – Part 2](#)

[Install Linux from USB Device or Boot into Live Mode Using Unetbootin and dd Command](#)

[10 Best Linux Command-Line Tools](#)

Linux Server Monitoring Tools

[MTR – A Network Diagnostic Tool for Linux](#)

[Install OpenNMS Network Monitoring Tool in CentOS/RHEL 7](#)

[How to Do Security Auditing of Linux System Using Lynis Tool](#)

[20 Useful Commands of 'Sysstat' Utilities \(mpstat, pidstat, iostat and sar\) for Linux Performance Monitoring](#)

[How to Install Zabbix on RHEL/CentOS and Debian/Ubuntu – Part 1](#)

Icinga: A Next Generation Open Source 'Linux Server Monitoring' Tool for RHEL/CentOS 7.0

Learn Linux Tricks & Tips

[Ternimal – Show Animated Lifeform in Your Linux Terminal](#)

[How to List Files Installed From a RPM or DEB Package in Linux](#)

[6 Useful Tools to Remember Linux Commands Forever](#)

[How to Auto Execute Commands/Scripts During Reboot or Startup](#)

[How to Block or Disable Normal User Logins in Linux](#)

[How to Enable, Disable and Install Yum Plug-ins](#)

Best Linux Tools

[5 Best Open Source Internet Radio Player for Linux](#)

[25 Outstanding Backup Utilities for Linux Systems in 2024](#)

[32 Most Used Firefox Add-ons to Improve Productivity in Linux](#)

[11 Best Free and Low-Cost SSL Certificate Authorities](#)

[3 Tools to Monitor and Debug Disk I/O Performance in Linux](#)

[8 Best MySQL/MariaDB GUI Tools for Linux in 2024](#)

Tecmint: Linux Howtos, Tutorials & Guides © 2024. All Rights Reserved.

The material in this site cannot be republished either online or offline, without our permission.

Hosting Sponsored by : **[Linode Cloud Hosting](#)**