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How to Change Nginx Port in Linux

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Nginx is an open source stable server that powers some of the most high traffic websites in internet today. Among web services, Nginx web server can be successfully deployed as an load-balancer, web reverse proxy or as a POP and IMAP proxy server.

By default, **Nginx HTTP** server listens for incoming connection and binds on port **80**, which represents the standard web port. However, the TLS configuration, which is not enabled by default in Nginx, listens for secure connections on port **443**.

In order to make Nginx HTTP server to listen for incoming web connections on other non-standard ports, we need to edit the main configuration file and change or add a new statement to reflect this fact.

In **Ubuntu** and **Debian** based system, we need to modify the **/etc/nginx/sites-enabled/default** file and on **RHEL** and **CentOS** based distributions edit **/etc/nginx/nginx.conf** file.

To begin with, open Nginx configuration file with a text editor, and change the port number as shown in the below excerpt.

```
# vi /etc/nginx/sites-enabled/default [On Debian/Ubuntu]
# vi /etc/nginx/nginx.conf           [On CentOS/RHEL]
```



In this excerpt we'll configure Nginx HTTP server to listen for incoming connections on port **3200**. Search for the line that begins with **listen** statement in server directive and change the port from **80** to **3200**, as illustrated in the below image.

```
listen 3200 default_server;
```

```

GNU nano 2.7.4                               File: /etc/nginx/sites-enabled/default
##
# You should look at the following URL's in order to grasp a solid understanding
# of Nginx configuration files in order to fully unleash the power of Nginx.
# https://www.nginx.com/resources/wiki/start/
# https://www.nginx.com/resources/wiki/start/topics/tutorials/config_pitfalls/
# https://wiki.debian.org/Nginx/DirectoryStructure
#
# In most cases, administrators will remove this file from sites-enabled/ and
# leave it as reference inside of sites-available where it will continue to be
# updated by the nginx packaging team.
#
# This file will automatically load configuration files provided by other
# applications, such as Drupal or Wordpress. These applications will be made
# available underneath a path with that package name, such as /drupal18.
#
# Please see /usr/share/doc/nginx-doc/examples/ for more detailed examples.
##

# Default server configuration
#
server {
    listen 3200 default_server;
    listen [::]:3200 default_server;

    # SSL configuration
    #
    # listen 443 ssl default_server;
    # listen [::]:443 ssl default_server;
    #
    # Note: You should disable gzip for SSL traffic.
    # See: https://bugs.debian.org/773332
    #
    [ Wrote 91 lines ]
^G Get Help  ^O Write Out ^W Where Is  ^K Cut Text  ^J Justify   ^C Cur Pos   ^Y Prev Page
^X Exit      ^R Read File ^\ Replace   ^U Uncut Text ^T To Spell  ^_ Go To Line ^V Next Page

```

Change Nginx Port in Ubuntu

```

GNU nano 2.3.1                               File: /etc/nginx/nginx.conf

log_format main '$remote_addr - $remote_user [$time_local] "$request" '
                '$status $body_bytes_sent "$http_referer" '
                '"$http_user_agent" "$http_x_forwarded_for"';

access_log /var/log/nginx/access.log main;

sendfile      on;
tcp_nopush    on;
tcp_nodelay    on;
keepalive_timeout 65;
types_hash_max_size 2048;

include       /etc/nginx/mime.types;
default_type  application/octet-stream;

# Load modular configuration files from the /etc/nginx/conf.d directory.
# See http://nginx.org/en/docs/nginx_core_module.html#include
# for more information.
include /etc/nginx/conf.d/*.conf;

server {
    listen 3200 default_server;
    listen [::]:80 default_server;
    server_name _;
    root /usr/share/nginx/html;

    # Load configuration files for the default server block.
    include /etc/nginx/default.d/*.conf;

    location / {
    }
}

```

[Wrote 90 lines]

^G Get Help ^O WriteOut ^R Read File ^Y Prev Page ^K Cut Text ^C Cur Pos
 ^X Exit ^J Justify ^W Where Is ^U Next Page ^U UnCut Text ^T To Spell

Change Nginx Port in CentOS

After altering Nginx port statement, you need to restart the web server in order to bind on the new port on Debian based Linux distributions. Verify local network sockets table with [netstat](#) or **ss command**. Port **3200** should be displayed in your server local network table.

```

# systemctl restart nginx
# netstat -tlnp| grep nginx
# ss -tlnp| grep nginx

```

In **CentOS** or **RHEL** based Linux distribution you need to install **policycoreutils** package and add the below rules required by SELinux for Nginx to bind on the new port.

```

# yum install policycoreutils
# semanage port -a -t http_port_t -p tcp 3200

```

```
# semanage port -m -t http_port_t -p tcp 3200
```

Finally restart Nginx HTTP server to apply changes.

```
# systemctl restart nginx.service
```

Check network tables listening sockets.

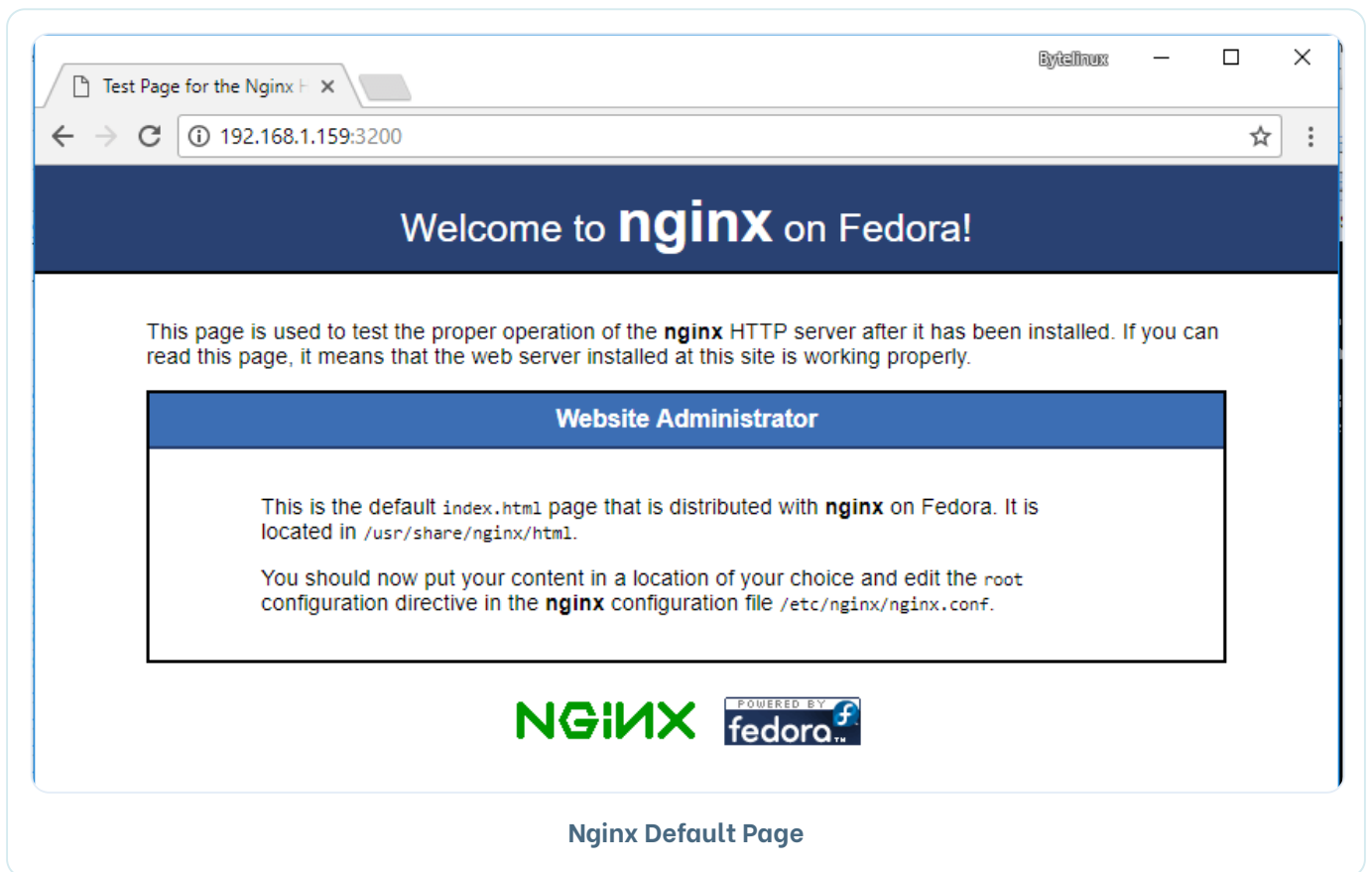
```
# netstat -tlnp | grep nginx
# ss -tlnp | grep nginx
```

```
[root@centos ~]# semanage port -a -t http_port_t -p tcp 3200
[root@centos ~]# semanage port -m -t http_port_t -p tcp 3200
[root@centos ~]#
[root@centos ~]#
[root@centos ~]# systemctl restart nginx.service
[root@centos ~]#
[root@centos ~]# netstat -tlnp | grep nginx
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:3200          0.0.0.0:*           LISTEN      14046/nginx: master
tcp6       0      0 :::80               :::*                LISTEN      14046/nginx: master
[root@centos ~]#
[root@centos ~]# ss -tlnp | grep nginx
LISTEN      0      128      *:3200              *:*                 users:((("nginx",pid=
14048,fd=6),("nginx",pid=14047,fd=6),("nginx",pid=14046,fd=6))
LISTEN      0      128      :::80               :::*                 users:((("nginx",pid=
14048,fd=7),("nginx",pid=14047,fd=7),("nginx",pid=14046,fd=7))
[root@centos ~]# _
```

Verify Nginx New Port

To check if the web server can be accessed from computers in your network, open a browser and navigate to your server IP address or domain name on port **3200**. You should see Nginx default web page, as illustrated in the below screenshot.

```
http://sever.ip:3200
```



However, if you can't browse Nginx web page, return to server console and check the firewall rules to allow incoming traffic on port **3200/tcp**.

🔑 Nginx Tips

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