

How to configure Linux web server

When you view a web page over the Internet, the code to create that page must be retrieved from a server somewhere on the Internet. The server that sends your web browser the code to display a web page is called a web server. There are countless web servers all over the Internet serving countless websites to people all over the world. Whether you need a web server to host a website on the Internet a Red Hat Enterprise Linux server can function as a web server using the **Apache HTTP server**. The Apache HTTP server is a popular, open source server application that runs on many UNIX-based systems as well as Microsoft Windows.

Exam question 1 There are two sites www.vinita.com and www.nikita.com. Both sites are mappings to 192.168.0.X IP address where X is your Host address. Configure the Apache web server for these sites to make accessible on web

Configure web server

In this example we will configure a **web server**.

*Necessary rpm for web server is **httpd**, **httpd-devel** and **apr** check them for install*

```
[root@Server ~]# rpm -qa http*
httpd-manual-2.2.3-6.el5
httpd-2.2.3-11.el5
httpd-2.2.3-6.el5
httpd-manual-2.2.3-11.el5
httpd-devel-2.2.3-6.el5
[root@Server ~]# rpm -qa apr*
apr-docs-1.2.7-11
apr-util-docs-1.2.7-6
apr-1.2.7-11
apr-util-devel-1.2.7-6
apr-devel-1.2.7-11
apr-util-1.2.7-6
[root@Server ~]# _
```

*Now configure the ip address to **192.168.0.254** and check it*

```
[root@Server ~]# ifconfig eth0
eth0      Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 00:0C:29:11:AD:E1
          inet addr:192.168.0.254  Bcast:192.168.0.255
          inet6 addr: fe80::20c:29ff:fe11:ade1/64 Scope:
          UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST  MTU:1500  Met
          RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 fr
          TX packets:51 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 c
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
          RX bytes:0 (0.0 b)  TX bytes:8466 (8.2 KiB)
          Interrupt:67 Base address:0x2000
```

*Start **httpd** daemons and verify its running status*

```
[root@Server ~]# chkconfig httpd on
[root@Server ~]# service httpd start
Starting httpd:
[root@Server ~]# service httpd status
httpd (pid 5465 5464 5463 5462 5461 5460 5459 5458 5456) is running
[root@Server ~]# pgrep httpd
5456
5458
5459
5460
5461
5462
5463
5464
5465
[root@Server ~]# _
```

Configure virtual hosting

In this example we will host a website www.vinita.com to apache web server. Create a documents root directory for this website and a index page

```
[root@Server ~]# mkdir -p /var/www/virtual/www.vinita.com/html
[root@Server ~]# vi /var/www/virtual/www.vinita.com/html/index.html _
```

For testing purpose we are writing site name in its index page

```
<b> www.vinita.com </b>
```

Save file and exit

Now open /etc/hosts file

```
[root@Server ~]# vi /etc/hosts _
```

In the end of file bind system IP with www.vinita.com

```
# Do not remove the following line, or various programs
# that require network functionality will fail.
127.0.0.1      localhost.localdomain  localhost
::1           localhost6.localdomain6 localhost6
192.168.0.254  Server Server
192.168.0.1    Client1 Client1
192.168.0.2    Client2 Client2
192.168.0.254  www.vinita.com
```

Now open /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf main configuration file of apache server

```
[root@Server ~]# vi /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf _
```

Locate virtual host tag

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```
969 # Use name-based virtual hosting.
970 #
971 #NameVirtualHost *:80
```

Remove # from the beginning and add the IP of host

```
# Use name-based virtual hosting.
#
NameVirtualHost 192.168.0.254_
#
```

Now go in the end of file and copy last seven line [virtual host tag] and paste them in the end of file. Change these seven lines as shown in image

```
984 #<VirtualHost *:80>
985 #     ServerAdmin webmaster@dummy-host.example.com
986 #     DocumentRoot /www/docs/dummy-host.example.com
987 #     ServerName dummy-host.example.com
988 #     ErrorLog logs/dummy-host.example.com-error_log
989 #     CustomLog logs/dummy-host.example.com-access_log common
990 #</VirtualHost>
991
992 <VirtualHost 192.168.0.254>
993     ServerAdmin root@www.vinita.com
994     DocumentRoot /var/www/virtual/www.vinita.com/html
995     ServerName www.vinita.com
996     ErrorLog logs/dummy-www.vinita.com-error_log
997     CustomLog logs/dummy-www.vinita.com-access_log common
998 </VirtualHost>_
```

Now save this file and exit from it

You have done necessary configuration now restart the httpd service and test this configuration run links command

```
[root@Server ~]# service httpd restart
Stopping httpd: [ OK ]
Starting httpd: [ OK ]
[root@Server ~]# links 192.168.0.254_
```

If links command retrieve your home page

```
http://192.168.0.254/
www.vinita.com
```

Means you have successfully configured the virtual host now test it with site name

```
[root@Server ~]# links www.vinita.com_
```

In output of links command you should see the index page of site

```
http://www.vinita.com/
www.vinita.com
```

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Configure multiple site with same IP address

At this point you have configured one site **www.vinita.com** with the IP address **192.168.0.254**. Now we will configure one more site **www.nikita.com** with **same** IP address

*Create a documents root directory for **www.nikita.com** website and a index page*

```
[root@Server ~]# mkdir -p /var/www/virtual/www.nikita.com/html
[root@Server ~]# vi /var/www/virtual/www.nikita.com/html/index.html_
```

For testing purpose we are writing site name in its index page

```
<b>www.nikita.com</b>_
```

Save file and exit

*Now open **/etc/hosts** file and bind system IP with **www.nikita.com***

```
# Do not remove the following line, or various programs
# that require network functionality will fail.
127.0.0.1    localhost.localdomain localhost
::1         localhost6.localdomain6 localhost6
192.168.0.254 Server Server
192.168.0.1  Client1 Client1
192.168.0.2  Client2 Client2
192.168.0.254 www.vinita.com
192.168.0.254 www.nikita.com
```

*Now open **/etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf** main configuration file of apache server*

```
[root@Server ~]# vi /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf _
```

Now go in the end of file and copy last seven line [virtual host tag] and paste them in the end of file. Change these seven lines as shown in image

```
<VirtualHost 192.168.0.254>
    ServerAdmin root@www.vinita.com
    DocumentRoot /var/www/virtual/www.vinita.com/html
    ServerName www.vinita.com
    ErrorLog logs/dummy-www.vinita.com-error_log
    CustomLog logs/dummy-www.vinita.com-access_log common
</VirtualHost>

<VirtualHost 192.168.0.254>
    ServerAdmin root@www.nikita.com
    DocumentRoot /var/www/virtual/www.nikita.com/html
    ServerName www.nikita.com
    ErrorLog logs/dummy-www.nikita.com-error_log
    CustomLog logs/dummy-www.nikita.com-access_log common
</VirtualHost>_
```

Now save this file and exit from it

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*You have done necessary configuration now restart the **httpd** service*

```
[root@Server ~]# service httpd restart
Stopping httpd:                                     [ OK ]
Starting httpd:                                     [ OK ]
[root@Server ~]# _
```

*Test this configuration run **links** command*

```
[root@Server ~]# links www.nikita.com_
```

*In output of **links** command you should see the index page of site*

Configure multiple site with multiple IP address

Now we will host multiple sites with multiple ip address. Create a virtual lan card on server and assign its an ip address of **192.168.0.253**. [if you don't know how to create virtual lan card and read our pervious article [how to create virtual lan card](#)]. we will create a testing site **www.nidhi.com** and will bind it with ip address of **192.168.0.253**

*Create a documents root directory for **www.nidhi.com** website and a index page*

```
[root@Server ~]# mkdir -p /var/www/virtual/www.nidhi.com/html
[root@Server ~]# vi /var/www/virtual/www.nidhi.com/html/index.html_
```

For testing purpose we are writing site name in its index page

```
<b>www.nidhi.com</b>_
```

Save file and exit

*Now open **/etc/hosts** file and bind system IP with **www.nidhi.com***

```
# Do not remove the following line, or various programs
# that require network functionality will fail.
127.0.0.1    localhost.localdomain localhost
::1        localhost6.localdomain6 localhost6
192.168.0.254 Server Server
192.168.0.1  Client1 Client1
192.168.0.2  Client2 Client2
192.168.0.254 www.vinita.com
192.168.0.254 www.nikita.com
192.168.0.253 www.nidhi.com_
```

*Now open **/etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf** main configuration file of apache server*

```
[root@Server ~]# vi /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf _
```

Now go in the end of file and copy last seven line [virtual host tag] and paste them in the end of file. Change these seven lines as shown in image

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```
<VirtualHost 192.168.0.254>
    ServerAdmin root@www.nikita.com
    DocumentRoot /var/www/virtual/www.nikita.com/html
    ServerName www.nikita.com
    ErrorLog logs/dummy-www.nikita.com-error_log
    CustomLog logs/dummy-www.nikita.com-access_log common
</VirtualHost>

<VirtualHost 192.168.0.253>
    ServerAdmin root@www.nidhi.com
    DocumentRoot /var/www/virtual/www.nidhi.com/html
    ServerName www.nidhi.com
    ErrorLog logs/dummy-www.nidhi.com-error_log
    CustomLog logs/dummy-www.nidhi.com-access_log common
</VirtualHost>
```

Now save this file and exit from it

*You have done necessary configuration now restart the **httpd** service*

```
[root@Server ~]# service httpd restart
Stopping httpd:                                     [ OK ]
Starting httpd:                                     [ OK ]
[root@Server ~]# _
```

*Test this configuration run **links** command*

```
root@Server ~]# service httpd restart
Stopping httpd:                                     [ OK ]
Starting httpd:                                     [ OK ]
root@Server ~]# links www.nidhi.com_
```

*In output of **links** command you should see the **index** page of site*

How to create site alias

Now I will show you that how can you use **site alias** to configure more name of same site. We configure a site **www.vinita.com** in stating of example. Now we will create **www.goswami.com** site alias for this site so this site can be access with both name.

*To create **alias** first make its entry in **/etc/hosts** file as shown here*

```
# Do not remove the following line, or various programs
# that require network functionality will fail.
127.0.0.1    localhost.localdomain localhost
::1        localhost6.localdomain6 localhost6
192.168.0.254 Server Server
192.168.0.1  Client1 Client1
192.168.0.2  Client2 Client2
192.168.0.254 www.vinita.com    www.goswami.com_
192.168.0.254 www.nikita.com
192.168.0.253 www.nidhi.com
```

*Now open main apache configuration **/etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf***

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```
[root@Server ~]# vi /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf _
```

Now go in the end of file and copy last seven line [virtual host tag] and paste them in the end of file. Change these seven lines as shown in image

```
<VirtualHost 192.168.0.254>
    ServerAdmin root@www.vinita.com
    DocumentRoot /var/www/virtual/www.vinita.com/html
    ServerName www.vinita.com
    ServerAlias www.goswami.com_
    ErrorLog logs/dummy-www.vinita.com-error_log
    CustomLog logs/dummy-www.vinita.com-access_log common
</VirtualHost>
```

Now save this file and exit from it

*You have done necessary configuration now restart the **httpd** service and test this configuration run **links** command*

```
[root@Server ~]# service httpd restart
Stopping httpd: [ OK ]
Starting httpd: [ OK ]
[root@Server ~]# links www.goswami.com_
```

*In output of **links** command you should see the index page of site*

```
http://www.goswami.com/
www.vinita.com
```