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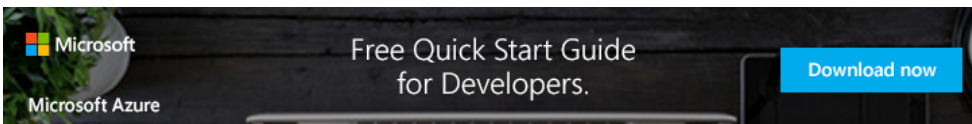
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Ubuntu clear Apache2 error log [duplicate]



This question already has an answer here:

[When using sudo with redirection, I get 'permission denied'](#) 5 answers

I am new to Ubuntu. I can find my error log here in `var/log/apache2/error.log` . but i couldn't clear it. i tried to change the permission to edit the content. But couldn't achieve it.

Please help me to remove it. I have read some question previously asked. but it does-not help me .

this one I read <http://askubuntu.com/questions/574725/how-to-clear-system-logs-in-ubuntu>.

Here is my terminal screen-shot:

```
varadha@varadha-X551CAP:~$ chown -R varadha:varadha /var/www
chown: changing ownership of '/var/www/html/phpmyadmin': Operation
not permitted
chown: changing ownership of '/var/www/html/index.html': Operation
not permitted
chown: changing ownership of '/var/www/html': Operation not permit
ted
chown: changing ownership of '/var/www': Operation not permitted
varadha@varadha-X551CAP:~$ sudo echo > /var/log/apache2/error.log
bash: /var/log/apache2/error.log: Permission denied
varadha@varadha-X551CAP:~$ sudo service apache2 stop
[sudo] password for varadha:
* Stopping web server apache2
*
varadha@varadha-X551CAP:~$ sudo echo > /var/log/apache2/error.log
bash: /var/log/apache2/error.log: Permission denied
varadha@varadha-X551CAP:~$
```

permissions apache2 error-handling

edited May 18 '16 at 9:52

Pierre.Vriens
611 1 6 15

asked Dec 5 '15 at 5:33

Kvvaradha
134 1 9

marked as duplicate by [David Foerster](#), [Eric Carvalho](#), [Videonauth](#), [RPI Awesomeness](#), [muru](#) May 19 '16 at 20:15

This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not fully address your question, please [ask a new question](#).

Please post text files and program output listings as text, not as images (see [How do I save terminal output to a file?](#)).
– David Foerster May 18 '16 at 8:42

2 Answers

Most files in `/var/log` are owned by root.

So, if you want to modify them, you will have to use `sudo`.

To clear the error file, give command:

```
sudo bash -c 'echo > /var/log/apache2/error.log'
```

If that doesn't work, then very likely the `apache` process keeps the file locked and you have to stop `apache` before you can clear the file. This goes as follows:

```
sudo service apache2 stop
sudo bash -c 'echo > /var/log/apache2/error.log'
sudo service apache2 start
```

Note: You can't use `sudo echo > /var/log/apache2/error.log` here, because `sudo` executes the `echo` command but the redirect to `error.log` is done under the process of the user, which doesn't have elevated privileges. That's why I pass the whole command to `bash`, which is then executed by `sudo`.

edited Dec 5 '15 at 7:02

answered Dec 5 '15 at 5:40



NZD

935 3 14

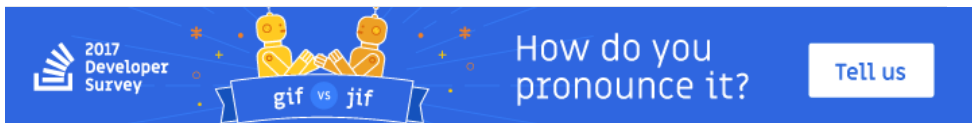
i tried it, it prevents the permission. I don't know how to provide access. and here i added a screen-shot in my question by editing it – [Kvvaradha](#) Dec 5 '15 at 5:44

Use `sudo sh -c 'echo > /path/to/file'` [stackoverflow.com/questions/82256/...](#) – [Progrok](#) Dec 5 '15 at 6:29

@Progrok thanks for that, updated my answer. – [NZD](#) Dec 5 '15 at 7:03

@Kvvaradha See my updated answer. – [NZD](#) Dec 5 '15 at 7:03

I solved it. Thanks for your answer. – [Kvvaradha](#) Dec 5 '15 at 7:05



```
$ sudo truncate -s 0 /path/to/log.log
```

edited Dec 5 '15 at 7:10

answered Dec 5 '15 at 6:28



Progrok

356 1 8