Red Hat System Administration I – Quick Guide

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Access the command line

Linux Command Syntax

• Basic Structure < cmd > [+- option] [argument].

Here's a breakdown of each part:

- <cmd>: The command itself. This is the executable program or script you are running. For example, 1s, cd, echo, etc.
- 2. [+- option]: Options or flags modify the behavior of the command. They can usually be prefixed with a single dash (for short options) or a double dash -- (for long options). For example, -1, --help, -a.
- 3. [argument]: These are the inputs or targets for the command. They can be files, directories, or other values the command operates on. For example, in the command 1s -1 /home, /home is an argument specifying the directory to list.

Keyboard Shortcuts

- Interrupting and Navigating ctrl+c to interrupt, ctrl+d to logout, ctrl+u to remove from the beginning, ctrl+k to remove to the end.
- Cursor Movement ctrl+a for the beginning of the command, ctrl+e for the end.
- Word Deletion ctrl+w to delete one word, esc+d to delete the next word.
- Grouping and Accessing Consoles 1s; cal; date; pwd for grouping, ctrl+alt+f2-f6 for tty2-tty6, chvt 5 to move to terminal 5, pkill -9 -t tty4 to send a SIGKILL signal.
- Clearing and Searching ctrl+l to clear, ctrl+r for reverse search.
- Auto-completion To enable, you can use yum install bash-completion and set disable-completion off.
- cd ~ Redirects to the home directory.

System Utility Commands

- **Date Commands** Display and manipulate the date and time.
 - o date Shows the current date and time.
 - o date +%d-%m-%Y-%H-%M-%S Formats the date output.
- Uptime and Load Monitoring
 - uptime Shows the system running time and active users.
 - o w Shows the uptime output and working users.
 - o watch -n 3 uptime Refreshes the uptime every 3 seconds.
- User and System Information
 - tty Displays the current logged-in shell.
 - o bc Provides a scientific calculator (binary calculator).
 - o whoami Prints the username associated with the current effective user ID.
 - o lscpu; cat /proc/cpuinfo Displays CPU information.
 - o lsmem; free -h; cat /proc/meminfo Shows memory status information.
 - o hostname; hostname -f Displays the full hostname.
 - o hostname -I Shows the IPv4 address of the current machine. While hostname -i shows both IPv4 and v6.
 - o uname -a Prints details about the machine and operating system.
- Measures how long it takes to execute operation
 - o time dd if=/dev/zero of=/root/bigfile bs=1G count=3
 - o time ./my-script.sh

NTP and Time Zone Commands

- Date and Hardware Clock
 - hwclock Displays the hardware clock.
 - o hwclock -hctosys Sets the system clock from the hardware clock.
 - o hwclock --systohc Sets the hardware clock from the current system time.
- NTP Configuration and Status
 - vim /etc/chrony.conf Edits the configuration file for Chrony, a replacement for NTPd by add your server to the list server 192.168.100.100 iburst
 - systemctl restart chronyd Restarts Chronyd, the default NTP daemon in Red Hat.
 - o chronyc sources Lists the current sources being used by Chrony.
 - o **ntpstat** Displays the status of the NTP daemon.
- Time Zone Management
 - timedatectl list-timezones Lists all available time zones.
 - o timedatectl set-timezone Asia/Muscat Changes the system time zone.
 - o cal 6 1982 Shows the calendar for June 1982.

Aliases

Aliases are shortcuts that allow you to abbreviate a command or series of commands.

- Creating and Using Aliases
 - o alias cls="clear" Creates an alias named 'cls' for the 'clear' command. To execute the alias, use \$cls.
 - o alias docs='cd /home/user/Documents' Creates a shortcut to navigate to a specific directory.
 - o alias -p Prints all predefined aliases.
 - o unalias cls Removes the 'cls' alias.
 - o unalias -a Removes all aliases, including defaults.
- Persistence of Aliases
 - o To make aliases permanent, you can save them in .bashrc inside the user's home directory.

History Size

- Viewing and Manipulating History
 - o cat ~/.bash history Displays the history saved file.
 - history -c Clears history.
 - o history -d 100 Removes line number 100 from history.
 - o history -w Saves the current session's command history to the user's history file, typically
 - ~/.bash_history. Try cat .bash_history | wc -l to compare between history and and saved in .bash_history
- History Size Configuration (~/.bashrc or ~/.bash_profile)
 - o echo \$HISTSIZE Displays the maximum number of commands to remember.
 - o echo \$HISTFILESIZE Displays the maximum number of lines contained in the history file.
 - export HISTSIZE=2000 Sets a new size for history. (usually ~/.bash_history),
 - o export HISTFILESIZE=2000 Sets a new file size for history.
 - o source ~/.bash_profile
- Utilizing History Shortcuts
 - !! or ctrl+p Executes the last command.
 - !g Runs the last command that started with 'g'.
 - !\$ retrieves the last argument from the last command
 - !20 Executes the command previously executed with the history number 20.

Manage Files from the Command Line

- Filesystem Structure (Linux File System Layout)
 - tree -L 2 / > system structure.txt Redirects the Linux hierarchy to a text file.
 - o man hier Provides manual pages explaining the file system hierarchy.
 - o man file-hierarchy Another command to view the hierarchy details.
- File System Paths
 - Relative Path Starts from the current directory.
 - Absolute Path Starts from the root directory (/).

Listing Files (Directories)

Linux treats everything as a file, and directories are no exception. Here's a breakdown of commands related to listing files

- Basic Commands for Listing Files
 - o pwd Prints the working directory.
 - o ls Lists files in the current directory.
 - o ls -a Lists all files, including hidden ones.
 - o ls -lt /etc Shows a long list, sorted by time.
 - ls -ld /etc Lists information about the specified directory.
- Example of File Type Display
 - o ls -aF /etc Shows files and their types, with directories ending with a /

Creating Files and Directories

- Creating Directories
 - o mkdir -p par1/par2/dir Creates a directory with parent directories as needed.
- Creating Files
 - touch f1 f2 f3 Creates multiple files.
 - o touch "my file.txt" Creates a file with spaces in its name.

File Display Commands

- Viewing File Content
 - o cat -n /etc/passwd Displays file contents with line numbers.
 - o tac /etc/passwd Reads files in reverse.
 - o less /etc/passwd Used to read long files; press 'q' to quit.
- Monitoring Files
 - o tail -f /var/log/messages Monitors a system log file in real-time.

File Maintenance Commands

- Copying Files
 - o cp -rvi file1 /media/file4 Copies and renames a file with interactive prompts.
 - cp -f /etc/*.conf /home/data Copies all .conf files, overwriting existing ones without prompting.
 - o dd if=/dev/sr0 of=/mnt/dvd.iso bs=1M Copies DVD content to a specific location.
- Moving and Renaming Files
 - o mv file1 file2 Renames a file.
 - o mv file1 file2 file3 dir Moves multiple files to a specific directory.
- Removing Files and Directories
 - o rmdir or rm -r Removes a directory.
 - shred passwd Destroys file content.
 - shred -u passwd Destroys and removes a file.

GREP and EGREP (Global Regular Expression Print)

Search for Multiple Words

- grep -e 'root' -e 'aabdelwahed' /etc/passwd
- egrep -i 'root|aabdelwahed' /etc/passwd

Extended Regular Expression Syntax

grep -E -i -w -o 'user1|user2|user3' /etc/passwd

Search Log Messages

egrep -i 'error|warning|critical' /var/log/message

Search Specific Sequence of Words

egrep -i 'root\ ahmed' /etc/passwd

Search Lines Beginning with a Specific Word

• egrep -i '(^root)' /etc/passwd

Search Lines Ending with a Specific Word

grep -i login\$ /etc/passwd

Display Lines Following a Match

cat /etc/passwd | grep -A 5 -i ahmed

Recursive Search for a Word

• grep -irl 'error' /home

Pipes, xargs, awk, cut, sort, uniq, sed

Using xargs

• 1s | xargs rm Deletes files listed in the directory by passing them as arguments to the rm command.

Using awk

- 11 | awk '{print \$NF}' Prints the name of each file in the directory.
- 11 | awk '{print \$1, \$NF}' Displays a list of files along with their permissions.
- awk -F: 'END {print NR}' /etc/passwd Counts the number of lines.
- awk -F: '{print \$1}' /etc/passwd Extracts the first field (usernames) using the ":" as a separator.
- awk -F: '\$3 > 1000 {print \$1}' /etc/passwd Extracts usernames where UID is greater than 1000.

Using cut

• cut -d: -f1 /etc/passwd Extracts the first field (usernames) using the ":" as a delimiter.

Using sort and uniq

- sort file1 Sorts the contents of a file alphabetically.
- sort -r file1 Sorts the contents of a file alphabetically in reverse order.
- sort -k2 /etc/passwd Sorts based on the second field (such as a user's login shell).
- sort file1 | uniq Sorts alphabetically and removes duplicates.
- sort file1 uniq -c Sorts alphabetically, removes duplicates, and counts the number of duplicates.
- sort file1 | uniq -d Prints only the duplicated data in sorted order.

Using sed

- sed -i 's/root/admin/g' passwd Changes all occurrences of "root" to "admin" in the passwd file.
- sed -i 's/admin//g' passwd Removes all occurrences of "admin" from the passwd file.
- sed -i '/^user1/d' /etc/sudoers Deletes lines that start with user1.
- sed -i '/^\$/d' passwd Deletes all empty lines from the passwd file.
- sed -i 'G' passwd Adds an empty line between all lines in the passwd file.
- sed -i '1s/root/admin/g' pass Replaces "root" with "admin" in the first line globally within the file named "pass."
- sed -i '2,\$s/root/admin/g' pass Replaces "root" with "admin" in all lines starting from the second line through the end of the file named "pass."

Miscellaneous Commands

- ss -tupln4 | grep LISTEN | awk -F: '{print \$2}' | awk '{print \$1}' Prints allowed TCP/UDP ports from the list of active connections.
- diff file1 file2 Compares the contents of two files and displays the differences.

Wildcards

Wildcards are special characters used to represent one or more characters in a file or directory name.

- * Matches any number of characters, including none.
- ? Matches exactly one character.
- Matches any one of the characters inside the brackets.
- {} Allows you to specify a list of alternative patterns.
- ! Negates the pattern, matching any file that does not match the pattern.
- 1s *.txt Lists all files in the current directory with a .txt extension.
- rm file?.txt Deletes matching files.
- cp [ab]*.txt destination Copies matching files.
- touch file0{1..9} Creates 9 files.
- rm file0* Removes all files matching the pattern.
- mkdir dir{1...10}, touch abc0{1...9}-xyz Creates multiple files and directories.
- rm *-xyz Removes everything ending with "xyz."
- touch dir{1..10}/file{1..100} Creates 100 files in each directory.
- touch file01, 11 fi??01 Demonstrates the use of the '?' wildcard.
- cat f[!dfghe]le1 Matches any characters except specified ones.
- ^old^new Quick substitution in the command line, replacing "old" with "new" in the previous command.

Redirection

Redirecting standard output (stdout)

- > Redirects stdout to a file.
- >> Appends stdout to a file.
- cat passwd > passwd orig Redirects input to output.
- df -h > newfile Overwrites file content.
- cat /dev/null > ahmedfile Deletes file content.
- echo "wooooow" > passwd Overwrites content.
- echo "wooow" >> passwd Appends content.
- df -hlT > diskfree Redirects disk free command.

Redirecting standard error (stderr)

- 2> Redirects stderr to a file.
- &> Redirects both stdout and stderr to the same file.
- (cal 2010; 111) >op.txt 2>err.txt Results in two files for output and error.
- (cal 2010; 111) 2> /dev/null Shows output and hides error.
- 1s /etcw 2> err Redirects standard error to an error file.

Redirecting standard input (stdin)

- < Redirects stdin from a file.
- Uses a command's output as the input for another command.
- 1s /etc | grep ".conf" Pipes one command into another.
- cat < /etc/passwd Redirects standard input from a file.

Get help in Red Hat Enterprise Linux

- **Short Description with whatis** Use the whatis command to get a brief description of a command. If it doesn't work, rebuild the manual database with mandb.
- Example whatis 1s returns a brief description of 1s.
- Locating Files with whereis Use whereis 1s for binary, source, and manual pages of 1s. whereis -b cat for binary files of cat. whereis -m cat for manual pages of cat.
- Finding Path with which Run which ls; which rm to find the path of ls and rm.
- Portfolio using --help Many commands support --help. Example ls --help provides a summary of ls.
- Manual with man Command (9 Sections) man displays manual pages with various navigation options
 - o g or p Start.
 - o shift+g End.
 - o q Quit.
 - / Search forward.
 - Search backward.
 - n Next search.
 - o N Previous search.
 - 100g Go to line 100.
 - Space Next page.
 - o man -K "copy files" Global search.
 - o man 5 crontab Jump to section 5.
 - o man useradd | grep -i -A 20 ^files Searches (case-insensitively) for lines starting with "FILES" and displays that line plus the next 20 lines.
 - o man find | grep -i -A 20 ^example
- Using info for More Information than man info provides more details. Use space, backspace, and u, s for search.
- Example info vim for information about vim.
- Accessing System Documentation /usr/share/doc holds system and package documentation.

Create, view, and edit text files

Linux File Editor (Vim)

Command Mode

Moving and Navigating

- Go to First Line 1G or gg.
- Go to Last Line G.
- Go to Specific Line 2G or 20gg for second or 20th line.
- End and Start of Line ^ and \$.

Inserting and Appending

- Before Cursor i.
- New Line Below o.
- New Line Above 0.
- Start of Line I.
- After Cursor a.
- End of Line A.

Copying and Pasting

- Copy Letter/Word/Line yl, yw, yy.
- Copy Multiple Lines 20yy.
- Paste Below/Above p, P.

Deleting

- Delete Letter/Word/Line dl, dw, dd.
- Delete Multiple Lines 20dd.
- Delete to End of Line/File d\$, dG.

Changing Text

- Delete and Change cl, cw, cc.
- Change Case Shift+~, g~~, gUU.
- Merge Lines shift J.

Other Commands

- Undo u, shift u.
- Save and Exit shift zz.
- Exit Without Save shift zq.

Execute Mode

Saving and Exiting

- Save and Exit x, wq.
- Force Exit q!.

Numbering and Language Settings

- Numbering Lines set nu, set nonu.
- Arabic Writing set arabic, set noarabic.

Search and Replace

- Highlight Search se hlsearch, se nohlsearch.
- Substitute Words %s/install/config/g.
- Delete Lines \$d, 1,9d, %d.
- Add Empty Lines %s/\$/\r/g.

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Visual Mode

Commenting Blocks

• Use Ctrl+V, Shift+I, #, and Esc for commenting multiple lines.

Set Vim Defaults with .vimrc (Custom Vim)

Defaults

• set number, set ignorecase, set hlsearch.

Vim Tips

Screen Management and Locking

- Lock and Unlock ctrl+s, ctrl+q.
- Add New Screens ctrl+w+n, ctrl+w+v.
- Move Between Screens ctrl+w.
- Global Settings Edit /etc/vimrc.
- Open Specific File cat /etc/passwd | vim.

Other Editors

Editing Tools

- Nano nano nf2.
- Gedit gedit file.

Manage local users and groups

ID Command for Managing Users and Groups in Linux

- Showing User Identification Utilizing the id command displays key information about Linux users. For instance, id test1 would yield the user ID, group ID, and any associated groups.
 - UID The User ID, with the root ID being 0 and normal user IDs starting from 1000. Those under 1000 are special and system-related.
 - o GID Primary (private) Group ID, which usually mirrors the UID. Private groups help maintain data privacy.
 - o **Groups** These are secondary groups associated with file access permissions.
 - Identifying a Specific User id test1 uid=1003(test1) gid=1003(test1) groups=1003(test1) shows user identification for 'test1'.

Creating User Accounts in Linux

- With Default Settings useradd user1 will create 'user1' with all default settings.
- With Custom Options useradd -c "test account" -u 5002 -M -N -g user1 -G sales,hr -s /bin/sh ahmed
 - c "test account" This sets the comment (or full name) for the user to "test account".
 - o -u 5002 This sets the user ID (UID) for the new account to 5002.
 - -M This instructs the command not to create a home directory for the user.
 - -N This means do not create a group with the same name as the username. Without this, useradd would
 create a group named "ahmed" by default when you add the "ahmed" user.
 - -g user1 This sets the primary group of the new user to "user1".
 - -G sales, hr This adds "ahmed" to the supplementary (or additional) groups "sales" and "hr".
 - o -s /bin/sh This sets the default shell for the user to /bin/sh.
 - o ahmed This is the name of the user being added.

Account Defaults

- Configuring User Defaults edit /etc/login.defs for password options, user and group IDs, home directory creation, and default umask.
- Viewing and Editing User Defaults Utilize useradd -D or edit /etc/default/useradd to view or change default settings.
- Understanding SKEL Variable It stands for "skeleton directory" and facilitates providing default files and directories to new users.

Creating Bulk Users

- Create a Text File 'users.txt' containing details of users you wish to create.
- Syntax The file must follow the syntax LoginName:Password:UID:GID:Comment:home_dir:Shell:Name.
- Applying the File Utilize the newusers command with the file as an argument.
 - Creating Multiple Users Including the entries in 'users.txt'
 like user001:user001:1002:1002:user01/home/user01:/bin/bash and executing newusers users.txt will create the specified users.
 - Creating a Password passwd user1 to set the password for 'user1'.
 - Checking Status passwd -S ahmed to view 'ahmed's password settings.

Implementing Password Policies

- Configuring Policies Files like '/etc/security/pwquality.conf' and '/etc/login.defs' store configuration for password quality and rules.
- Checking Quality pwscore checks password quality, with values ranging from 0 to 100.

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Managing User and Password Age

- Viewing and Changing Password Age chage commands provide detailed control over password aging policies, allowing you to set specific conditions and requirements.
- Handling Shadow Data Commands like 'pwunconv' and 'pwconv' control how password information is stored, either in '/etc/passwd' or '/etc/shadow'.
- Account Locking and Expiration Various chage, usermod, and passwd commands manage account locking, expiration, and access control.

```
chage -d 0 -M 42 -m 2 -W 4 -E 2024-12-31 user1
```

- d 0 Sets the last password change date to the epoch (January 1, 1970). Setting it to 0 will typically force the user to change their password the next time they log in.
- M 42 Sets the maximum number of days the password is valid (before it expires) to 42 days.
- m 2 Sets the minimum number of days before which the password cannot be changed (once changed) to 2 days.
- W 4 Sets the number of days to warn the user before the password expires. In this case, the user will receive a warning 4 days before their password is set to expire.
- E 2024-12-31 Sets the account expiration date to December 31, 2024. After this date, the user will not be able to log in.
- user1 the target user account for which these changes are being made.
- Setting Last Password Change chage -d 2024-6-13 ahmed.
- Locking and Unlocking Account usermod -L ahmed; usermod -U ahmed
- Blocking Shell (non-interactive shell) chsh -s /sbin/nologin ahmed.
- o **Deleting User** userdel -r ahmed to remove user and their home directory.

Managing Local Groups

- Linux Identity System Linux divides identity into owner, individual user, groups of users, and the world.
- **Viewing Group Membership** Commands like groups, groups username, and getent group show group membership.

Creating Local Groups

- Creating and Viewing Groups Utilize groupadd to create groups and cat /etc/group, getent group, or grep to view groups.
- Adding New Group groupadd sales to create a 'sales' group.
- Creating Group with Specific ID groupadd -g 555 admins.

Group Membership Management

- Primary Group Changes
 - o newgrp wheel Switch the current session's primary group to wheel.
- Secondary Group Modifications
 - o usermod -G wheel aabdelwahed Set wheel as the sole secondary group for aabdelwahed, removing all others.
 - usermod -aG wheel aabdelwahed Add wheel as a secondary group for aabdelwahed without removing current secondary groups.
 - o usermod -aG wheel, admins ahmed Add wheel and admins as secondary groups for ahmed.

Group Membership Administration with gpasswd

- o gpasswd -a user01 wheel Add user01 to the wheel group.
- gpasswd -M user01, user02, user03 sales Explicitly set members of sales group, overwriting existing
 ones.
- o gpasswd -d user01 sales Remove user01 from sales group.
- o gpasswd -A user01 sales Set user01 as an administrator for sales group.

Querying Group Memberships

- o groupmems -lg wheel List members of the wheel group.
- o lid ahmed List groups associated with ahmed.
- o lid -g wheel Display members of wheel group.

Group Management

Modifications

- o groupmod -n finance sales Rename sales group to finance.
- o groupmod -g 1100 hr Set GID of hr group to 1100.

Deletions

o groupdel finance Remove the finance group.

Note usermod requires root privileges, while newgrp can be used by regular users to change their session's primary group.

Group Passwords

• **Setting Group Password** Use gpasswd to assign a group password, allowing users to change group membership with newgrp.

User and Group Configuration Files

- Viewing Configuration Utilize cat on files like /etc/passwd, /etc/shadow, /etc/group, /etc/gshadow to view user and group properties.
- Editing Configuration Edit files like /etc/logon.defs and /etc/default/useradd for generic configurations.

Visudo (Enable Sudo)

- Enabling Sudo Utilize Visudo to specify who can run which command without needing the root password.
- Enable Specific Access Enable %wheel ALL=(root) ALL, and add specific users.
- Enabling sudo Access Edit specific lines or add users to the 'wheel' group. usermod -G wheel aabdelwahed.
- **Disabling 5-Minute Timeout** Set timestamp timeout=0.
- Restart SSH Service Use systemctl restart sshd to apply changes.

Control access to files with Linux file system permissions

Understanding Files and Directory Permissions

- Command to View Permissions 1s -1 is used to display file and directory permissions.
- Permissions Structure Permissions are depicted in 9 characters, representing permissions for the owner, group, and others.
- Order of Checking Permissions The system checks permissions in the order of user, group, and others, stopping once a match is found.
- File Access Rights Defined by Read (R), Write (W), and Execute (X).

Examples of Right Access and Commands

- Read (R)
 - o Files View contents with cat, less, more, tac.
 - Directories List contents with 1s.
- Write (W)
 - Files Modify contents with echo, cat, vim.
 - Directories Create or remove with mkdir, rm.
- Execute (X)
 - o Files Allows execution if it's a script or program.
 - Directories Change to the directory with Cd.

Alphabet vs Numerical Syntax for Permissions

Numerical Representation

• 0 for No permissions; 1 for Execute only; 2 for Write only (used with command redirection), 3 for Write and Execute; 4 for Read only; 5 for Read and Execute, 6 for Read and Write, defining various access levels for users on.

Listing Permissions

- Viewing Specific File Permissions 1s -1 file01.
- Viewing Full Metadata stat file01.
- Displaying Symbolic Permissions Stat -c %A file01.
- Displaying Numeric Permissions Stat -c %a file01.
- Showing Numeric Permissions for Specific Patterns Stat -c %a test_*.

Modifying Permissions with chmod

- Changing Permissions The Chmod command is used to change file and directory permissions.
- **Symbolic Mode** Use characters like **u** for owner, **g** for group, **o** for others, and **a** for all, combined with +, -, or = to add, remove, or set specific permissions.
 - o chmod uo+x, g-w file01 to add execute permission to the owner and others and write only for group.
 - o chmod u=r,g=rw,o=rwx file01 sets specific permissions for user, group, and others.
- Numeric Mode Use numerical values to define permissions.
 - o chmod 755 file01 to set read, write, and execute for owner, and read and execute for group and others.

Managing Default Permissions (Umask)

- **Default Values** Files (0666), Directories (0777).
- Use umask Command Adjust the default permissions.
 - Examples umask 0 to set 0000, umask 27 for specific settings.
- Persistent Change Edit /etc/bashrc and write, e.g., umask=555.

Managing File Ownership

- Use chown Command Change user and group ownership.
 - o Change User Owner chown user1 file01 (only root can do this).
 - Change Group Owner chgrp sales file01 or chown :Sales file01.
 - o Change Both chown user1:Sales file01.
 - o Recursive Change chown -R user1:Sales ./ for current directory and subdirectories.
- View Numeric IDs ls -ldn dir1 to view numeric user and group IDs.

Audit Permission Changes

- Install Audit yum install audit.
- Enable Audit Service systematl enable auditd.service; systematl start auditd.service.
- Set Audit Rule auditctl -w /day2 -p a -k day2_permission_change to monitor specific changes.
- Search Audit Logs ausearch -k day2 permission change to search for specific tagged events.
- Make the Rule Persistent echo "-w /day2 -p a -k day2_permission_change" | tee -a /etc/audit/rules.d/audit.rules

Making Links Between Files (Soft and Hard Links)

1. Hard Links

- o **Definition** Hard links are essentially multiple directory entries for a single file on the file system.
- Creation ln source_file hard_link_name
- Characteristics
 - Shares the same inode as the original file.
 - Acts as a regular file and doesn't indicate if it's a link.
 - Modifications are reflected across all linked files because they point to the same data blocks.
 - If the original file is deleted, the hard link will still access the data.
 - Can't be created for directories to prevent cyclic references and loops.

2. Symbolic (Soft) Links

- o **Definition** Symbolic links are special files that point to another file or directory path.
- Creation ln -s source file or directory symlink name
- Characteristics
 - Contains a path to the target file, rather than pointing to the data blocks directly.
 - Has a different inode number.
 - Acts as a pointer or shortcut.
 - If the original file or directory is deleted or moved, the symlink becomes a "dangling link" (pointing to a non-existent file).
 - Can be easily identified with the ls -1 command because they show the path to the original file.

Using find Command

- 1. Search by Name Pattern
 - o Example find / -name file*
 - Explanation Searches for all files starting with "file" in the root directory.
- 2. Search by Size
 - Example find / -size +1G
 - o **Explanation** Searches for all files larger than 1 GB in the root directory.
- 3. Search by Permissions
 - Example find -type f -perm 644
 - o **Explanation** Searches for all files with permission 644.
- 4. Search by Type (e.g., Empty Directories)
 - Example find /tmp -type d -empty
 - Explanation Searches for all empty directories in the /tmp directory.
- 5. Search by Owner or Group
 - Example find /tmp/ -user root
 - Explanation Searches for all files owned by the "root" user in /tmp.
- 6. Copy Files Based on Search
 - o Example find /usr/share/doc -name *.html -exec cp {} . \;
 - o **Explanation** Finds all html files in /usr/share/doc and copies them to the current directory.
- 7. Change Permissions of Specific Files
 - o Example find /root -type f -perm 0777 -exec chmod 500 {} \;
 - Explanation Searches for all regular files under "/root" with permission 0777 and changes their permissions to 500.
- 8. Find Files Without Specific Permissions
 - Example find / -type f! -perm 777
 - Explanation Finds files without 777 permissions in the root directory.
- 9. Find and Delete Specific Files
 - o Example find / -type f -name *.mp3 -size +10M -exec rm {} \; or find / -type
 f -name *.mp3 -size +10M -delete
 - Explanation Finds and deletes all MP3 files larger than 10 MB in the root directory.
- 10. Identifying Recently Accessed and Modified Files
- find / -mtime 1 Searches the entire filesystem for files modified exactly 24 hours (1 day) ago.
- find / -mtime -1 Finds files modified within the last 24 hours from the entire filesystem.
- find / -atime 5 Searches for files last accessed exactly 5 days ago throughout the entire filesystem.
- find / -atime -5 2>/dev/null Finds files accessed within the last 5 days, suppressing error messages.
- find / -amin 10 2>/dev/null Searches for files last accessed exactly 10 minutes ago, hiding errors.
- find / -mmin -10 Finds files modified within the last 10 minutes across the filesystem.
- find / -mmin +10 Searches the entire filesystem for files that were last modified more than 10 minutes ago.

Using locate Command

- 1. Basic Search
 - Example locate filename
 - **Explanation** Searches for files with "filename" in their names using the previously built database.
- 2. Update Database
 - Example updatedb
 - Explanation Updates the database used by locate to ensure that the search results are current.

Monitor and manage Linux Processes

Process Inspection Using ps Command

- HTTP Process Inspection
 - o ps aux | grep http Searches for processes related to HTTP from the list of all processes.
- General Process Inspection
 - o ps aux Provides detailed information about most processes currently running on the system. It displays owner, CPU usage, memory usage, and the command itself.
 - o ps -elf Displays a long-format listing of all processes, including their parent process IDs (PPID).
 - o ps -eo pid,ppid,uid,cputime,pmem,cmd Offers a customized output for the ps command, showing process ID, parent process ID, user ID, CPU time, percentage of memory used, and the command itself.
 - ps -fU ahmed Displays full-format listing of all processes specifically owned by the user "ahmed".
- Tree View & Paging
 - o ps fax | less Displays a hierarchical view (similar to a tree structure) of processes and their child processes. The less command is used for paging through the list.
- Quick Analysis
 - o ps aux | head Outputs the first ten lines from the ps aux command. This usually includes the column headers and the first nine processes.
 - o ps aux | wc Counts the number of lines, words, and characters in the output of ps aux. This essentially gives an idea of the number of processes running.

Backgrounding Tasks

- sleep 1000 Pauses the shell or script's execution for 1000 seconds.
- sleep 1000& Starts the sleep 1000 command in the background.
- jobs Displays the status of jobs in the current session.
- bg Resumes the last job that was stopped and runs it in the background.
- fg Brings the most recent background job to the foreground.
- fg 1 Brings the job with job number 1 to the foreground.
- ps -p 13732 or ps -F 13732 Displays information about the process with the process ID (PID) 13732.

Stress Testing

- dnf install -y https://dl.fedoraproject.org/pub/epel/epel-release-latest-9.noarch.rpm Installs the Extra Packages for Enterprise Linux (EPEL) repository.
- yum install stress Installs the stress tool.
- stress --cpu 2 --timeout 600 Applies load on 2 CPU cores for 10 minutes.
- stress --vm 2 --vm-bytes 256M --timeout 60 Consumes 256MB of RAM for 60 seconds using 2 workers.
- stress --hdd 2 --timeout 60 Stresses the hard disk for 60 seconds with 2 workers.

Query Processes

- o pgrep sleep Searches for processes named "sleep" and prints their process IDs.
- o ps p \$(pgrep sleep) Uses the process IDs found by pgrep sleep to display detailed information about each "sleep" process.
- o pgrep --count sleep Returns the number of "sleep" processes currently running.

......

List all internet and network files in use by all processes: lsof -i List processes listening on specific ports: lsof -i :22

Terminate Processes

- o Soft Kill kill 8537, kill -15 8537, kill -term 8537, kill -sigterm 8537.
- o Hard Kill kill -9 8537, kill -kill 8537, kill -sigkill 8537.
- o pkill sleep Sends the TERM signal to all "sleep" processes, asking them to terminate gracefully.
- o pkill -KILL -u user Sends the KILL signal to all processes owned by the user named "user", forcefully terminating them.
- killall sshd Sends the TERM signal to all processes named "sshd", asking them to terminate gracefully.

Monitoring using top and htop

- top A monitoring tool that monitors active processes in real time, sorting them based on processor utilization. Can be customized with various keys
- f Add fields like PPID; z Color results; h More help.
- k Kill process; i Show only active processes; r Renice; q Quit.
- 1 Displays detailed information for each CPU.
- dnf install htop Installs htop (epel must be installed first).

Setting Process Priority with nice

- Commands
 - o nice -n 5 dd if=/dev/zero of=/dev/null & This command starts a dd process with a nice value of 5, meaning it has a lower priority than the default processes.
 - o nice -n -5 dd if=/dev/zero of=/dev/null & This starts the same dd process, but this time with a nice value of -5, giving it a higher priority.
 - o renice -n 10 -p 14721 This command is used to change the nice value of a running process. In this case, it changes the nice value of the process with the PID (Process ID) 14721 to 10.
- Important Notes
 - Only the root user can set negative nice values since they give processes a higher priority. Such changes can be resource-intensive and potentially disruptive, hence the need for root privileges.
 - When multiple dd commands are run with different nice values, the one with the higher priority (lower nice value) is likely to be given more CPU time.

Manipulating CPU Cores

• The command echo 0 > /sys/bus/cpu/devices/cpu1/online disables a CPU core (in this case, cpu1), effectively turning it off. This can be helpful when trying to observe the CPU resource consumption of processes with different nice values on a single core.

Setting Default nice Values

- As the root user, you can set default nice values for specific users or groups. This is achieved by adding appropriate entries in the /etc/security/limits.conf file. For example
- o user hard priority 7 This sets the default nice value for the user named "user" to 7.

Using ulimit

• ulimit is a shell builtin that can set user limits. The example command ulimit -u 19 sets the maximum number of processes a user can run simultaneously to 19. However, this change is temporary and applies to the current shell session.

Monitor and Terminate Other Users' and Sessions

- chvt 3 Changes the virtual terminal to 3, allowing login with another user.
- loginctl list-sessions Lists all sessions.
- loginctl terminate-session 4 Shuts down session 4.
- loginctl list-users Lists all users.
- loginctl terminate-user ahmed Terminates all sessions for the user "ahmed."
- loginctl user-status 1000 Checks the status of user with ID 1000.

Control services and daemons

View and Query Services

- systemctl -t help Shows the available units.
- systemctl list-units Shows all loaded units.
- systemctl status sshd.service Check service state.
- systemctl --type=service Check all services.
- systemctl --type=service | grep active | wc -1 Show total number of active processes.
- systemctl is-active sshd Check if sshd is active.
- systemctl is-enabled sshd Check if sshd is enabled.
- systemctl --failed --type=service List failed services.

Start, Stop, Reload Services

- systemctl stop sshd.service Stop sshd service.
- systemctl start sshd.service Start sshd service.
- systemctl restart sshd.service Restart sshd service.
- systemctl reload sshd.service Reload sshd service.
- systemctl reload-or-restart sshd.service Reload if available or restart sshd service.

View Dependencies

• systemctl list-dependencies sshd.service Display dependencies hierarchy.

Masking Services

- systemctl mask name.service Mask service to prevent it from being started.
- systemctl unmask name.service Unmask a service.
- systemctl list-unit-files --state=masked Getall masked services.

Edit and Customize Services

- /usr/lib/systemd/system/ Directory containing systemd service files.
- vim /usr/lib/systemd/system/httpd.service Edit the httpd service file.
- systemctl cat httpd Shows the configuration file for the httpd service.
- systemctl show httpd Display properties of httpd.
- systemctl edit httpd Edit the httpd service in the default editor.
- systemctl daemon-reload Reload system manager configuration.
- systemctl restart httpd Restart the httpd service.
- ps aux | grep http Find and kill the httpd process by PID, used in conjunction with killing the process to observe its state.

Change Default Editor (optional)

 In ~/.bash_profile for the current user or /etc/environment for all users, add the line export EDITOR=/usr/bin/vim to set vim as the default editor.

Configure and secure SSH

- 1. Identify the Package Providing sshd
 - dnf whatprovides */sshd
- 2. Install OpenSSH
 - dnf install openssh
- 3. Edit SSH Configuration to use port 1414
 - vi /etc/ssh/sshd_config Modify it to work through port 1414.
- 4. Update Firewall Rules
 - firewall-cmd --zone=public --add-port=1414/tcp --permanent Allow port 1414.
 - firewall-cmd --reload Reload firewall rules.
- 5. Configure SELinux for Port 1414 (if enabled)
 - semanage port -a -t ssh port t -p tcp 1414 Allow 1414 port from SELinux.
- 6. Enable and Start SSHD
 - systemctl enable sshd; systemctl start sshd
- 7. Verify SELinux Configuration
 - semanage port -l | grep sshd

Secure SSH

- 1. Backup Current Configuration
 - cp /etc/ssh/sshd_config /etc/ssh/sshd_config.bak
- 2. Edit SSH Configuration for Security
 - vi /etc/ssh/sshd config
 - Set LoginGraceTime 30 Restrict time for authentication.
 - Set PermitRootLogin no Disable root login.
 - Set Port 1414 Change default port.

Configure SSH Keys

- 1. Generate and secure SSH Key Pair on Remote Server
 - ssh-keygen
 - chmod 700 ~/.ssh
 - chmod 600 ~/.ssh/authorized_keys
- 2. View Keys
 - cat /home/ahmed/.ssh/id_rsa Contains private key.
 - cat /home/ahmed/.ssh/id_rsa.pub Contains public key.
- 3. Copy Public Key to Target Host
 - ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub user@host
- 4. Restart SSHD
 - sudo systemctl restart sshd
 - ssh user@host Test the connection.

Disable Root Login and Password-Based Login

- 1. Edit SSH Configuration
 - vi /etc/ssh/sshd config and change the following
 - ChallengeResponseAuthentication no
 - o PasswordAuthentication no
 - o UsePAM no
- 2. Reload SSHD
 - systemctl reload sshd

Linux System Logs Monitor Guide

Overview Log files on Linux servers provide a detailed record of system activities. These logs aid in troubleshooting, monitoring, and security evaluations. To get the most out of these logs, they need to be managed and analyzed effectively.

Common Linux Log File Locations and Descriptions

System Logs

- 1. /var/log/messages Contains general system messages, including startup messages. It's one of the primary logs administrators check when troubleshooting.
- 2. /var/log/boot.log Logs related to the system booting process.
- 3. /var/log/kern.log Logs from the Linux kernel. Useful for troubleshooting hardware and kernel-specific issues.
- 4. /var/log/secure (or /var/log/auth.log) Authentication-related logs, recording user authentications, attempted logins, and other security-related events.
- 5. /var/log/utmp or /var/log/wtmp These are not really log files. They store information about who is currently logged in and login history. The who, w, last and lastb commands use these files.
- 6. /var/log/cron.log Logs from the cron daemon, showing the execution of scheduled tasks.

Application and Service Logs

- /var/log/maillog Logs from mail servers like Sendmail or Postfix. Useful for troubleshooting email delivery issues.
- 8. /var/log/qmail/ Directory containing logs specifically for the qmail mail server.
- 9. /var/log/httpd/ Contains log files for the Apache HTTP server, including access.log (recording all requests processed by the server) and error.log (recording errors).
- 10. /var/log/lighttpd/ Directory with logs for the Lighttpd web server, structured similarly to Apache's logs.
- 11. /var/log/mysqld.log Log file for the MySQL database server. Contains database server-related messages, including errors, warnings, and other diagnostic info.
- 12. /var/log/yum.log Log for the yum package manager, recording package installations, updates, and removals.

Understanding rsyslogd Configurations

rsyslogd provides flexible logging configurations that can be tailored based on

- Facilities Categories of information, e.g., system, security, mail.
- Priorities Severity levels such as emergency, error, warning, etc.
- **Destinations** Where the logs will be written to.

Example Configuration Edit /etc/rsyslog.conf to

#log all warning messages to warning file

```
*.warn /var/log/warnings
*.err /var/log/errors
systemctl restart rsyslog
```

Managing Logs with logrotate

logrotate is an essential tool on Linux systems for rotating, compressing, and managing log files.

Sample Configuration for Log Files

1. Create Two Test Log Files:

```
mkdir /tmp/log
vim /tmp/log/test.log  # Add data to this log file
vim /tmp/log/test1.log # Add data to this log file
```

2. **Logrotate Configuration:** Edit the logrotate configuration file for your test logs:

```
vim /etc/logrotate.d/test
Sample configuration:
/tmp/log/*.log {
    size 100M
    rotate 4
    weekly
    compress
}
   o size 100M: Rotate logs when they reach 100MB.

    rotate 4: Keep four rotated logs.

    weekly: Rotate logs weekly.

   o compress: Compress the rotated logs.
```

3. Manually Running Logrotate: To manually trigger log rotation:

```
logrotate -f /etc/logrotate.conf
```

SOS Report

The SOS report is crucial for system administrators and support professionals. Here's more about its usage

- 1. Generating the Report
 - The command to generate the report sosreport
 - o The utility might require superuser privileges, so you might need to use sudo.
- 2. What's Included
 - Configuration details System and application configurations.
 - o Hardware information List of devices, memory usage, CPU details, etc.
 - System logs Logs from /var/log, journal logs, etc.
 - Status of system services and processes.
- 3. Usage
 - o After generating the report, you'll get a compressed file, typically in .tar.xz format.
 - o This file can be shared with support or analyzed locally.
 - It's wise to understand the content of the report, especially if sharing externally, to avoid unintentionally sharing sensitive information.

Managing Red Hat Enterprise Linux Networking

Basic IP Commands

- Display Interface Details ip a show eth0 or ip a s enos3; ip -6 a
- Turn Interface Off ip link set eth0 down Turns the eth0 interface off.
- Add Temporary IP Address ip addr add 192.168.1.100/24 dev eth0 Assign a temporary IP address to eth0.
- Show Routing Table ip r show
- Add Temporary Default Gateway ip route add 172.16.1.0/24 via 192.168.1.1
- ARP Table / Neighbors ip n show
- Display Specific Interface Information ip -4 a s em1 Displays information about the em1 interface for IPv4.
- Routing Table for IPv4/IPv6 ip r s and ip -6 r
- Trace Network Paths tracepath www.google.com and tracepath6 www.google.com

Network Diagnostics

- Packet Capture and Analysis tcpdump.
- Network Statistics Netstat netstat -a | more Listens to all TCP and UDP ports.

```
netstat -tupln, ss -tunap ,netstat -s, netstat -r
```

- dnf install bind-utils
- dig yahoo.com; dig mx yahoo.com; dig ns yahoo.com; dig txt yahoo.com
- host -t MX p yahoo.com
- dig @1.1.1.1 yahoo.com
- tcpdump -i eth0 port 22
- tracepath www.google.com
- ping -I eth0 www.yahoo.com
- nmap -p 80 192.168.1.1; nmap -p 22,80,443 192.168.1.1; nmap 192.68.244.1-100

Configuration Files

- 1. Global Network Configuration /etc/sysconfig/network
- The network configuration files used to be in /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-ethx but have moved to /etc/NetworkManager/system-connections/.
- 2. Hostname /etc/hostname
- 3. Name Server Configuration /etc/resolve.conf
- 4. Static Table Lookup for Hostnames /etc/hosts

Persistently Storing Network Configurations

Edit the interface configuration using a text editor like vim

vim /etc/NetworkManager/system-connections/

After making changes, restart the Network Manager systemctl restart NetworkManager

curl and ping Commands

- Download Files wget [fileurl]
- Check Website Accessibility curl www.google.com If it returns the website's content, the site is accessible.
- **Download Using curl** -O www.site/filename This can replace wget if it's not supported in your system.
- Ping a Website ping www.google.com For a limited number of pings, use
 ping -c 5 www.google.com; Ping ping6 www.google.com

```
address1=192.168.244.22<mark>2</mark>/24,192.168.244.2
dns=1.1.1.;
method=manual
```

Network Management with nmcli and nmtui

- Show Devices nmcli d s or ip link
- Show Connections nmcli connection show
- Show Active Connections nmcli connection show --active
- Device Status nmcli device status
- Add a Connection to NIC (Static)

```
nmcli connection add con-name newcon1 ifname ens224 ipv4.addresses 192.168.219.140/24 ipv4.gateway 192.168.219.2 ipv4.dns 1.1.1.1 ipv4.method manual type ethernet
```

• Modify an Existing Connection

```
nmcli connection modify "ens160" ipv4.addresses "192.168.219.111/24" ipv4.gateway "192.168.219.2" ipv4.dns "1.1.1.1" ipv4.dns-search "search.abdelwahed.me" ipv4.method manual autoconnect yes
```

Add extra connection to the same NIC (DHCP)

nmcli con add type ethernet con-name newcon2 ifname ens224 ipv4.method auto

- Reload Connection nmcli connection reload
- Activate a Connection nmcli connection up "newcon1"
- Deactivate a Connection nmcli connection down newcon1
- Disable NIC nmcli device disconnect eth0
- Enable NIC nmcli device connect eth0
- Graphical Network Configuration Tool nmtui

Archiving and Transferring Files Using tar and Compression Tools

Using tar for Archiving and Extraction

- Archiving
 - To archive /home directory into a file named home.tar tar cvf home.tar /home/
 - For the /etc directory into etc.tar tar cvf etc.tar /etc/
- Checking Archive Type file home.tar
- Listing Archive Contents
 - Forhome.tar tar tf home.tar
 - To find specific files (e.g., rsyslog in etc.tar) tar -tf etc.tar | grep rsyslog
- Extraction
 - To extract in the current location tar xvf home.tar
 - To extract to a different location like /mnt/ tar xvf home.tar -C /mnt/
 - For extracting with original permissions tar xpvf home.tar -C /mnt/
- Compression with tar
 - Using gzip tar zcvf /lab01/home.gz /home/
 - Extraction tar zxvf home.gz -C /save
 - Using bzip2 tar jcvf /lab01/home.tar.bz2 /home/
 - Extraction tar jxvf home.bz2 -C /save
 - Using xz tar Jcvf /lab01/home.xz /home/
 - Extraction tar Jxvf home.xz -C /save
- Backup and Restore
 - For backup tar zcvf home.tar.gz /home
 - For restoration tar zxvf home.tar.gz -C /

Compression Using gzip

- Compression gzip arch.tar
- **Decompression** gunzip arch*
- Reading Compressed Files Use zcat or zless

Compression Using bzip2

- First, ensure the necessary software is installed yum install bzip*
- Compression bzip2 file
- Decompression bunzip2 file*

Compression Using xz

- Compression
 - For a single file xz passwd
 - While retaining the original xz -k passwd
 - For multiple files xz f1.txt f2.txt f3.txt
- Decompression
 - Basic decompression xz -d passwd.xz
- While retaining the .xz original unxz -k passwd.xz
- Inspection and Listing
 - Compression information xz -1 passwd.xz
 - View contents without decompression xzcat passwd.xz
- Advanced Compression with xz
 - Using multiple options like keeping the source, verbose output, extreme mode, and compression ratio xz -k6ev centos7.iso

Installing and Updating Software in Red Hat

Using Online Repository

```
    Register the system with the Red Hat Subscription Manager
subscription-manager register --username user01 --password pass12345 --auto-
attach --force
```

2. Remove all subscriptions

```
subscription-manager remove --all
```

3. Unregister from the Red Hat Subscription Manager

```
subscription-manager unregister
```

4. Clean up subscription data

```
subscription-manager clean
```

Installing EPEL Repository

 Install the EPEL repository dnf install epel*

Creating a Local Repository

1. Create a directory for repository data and copy DVD content to it

```
mkdir /mnt/repos
cp -r /mnt/dvd/AppStream/ /mnt/repos/
cp -r /mnt/dvd/BaseOS/ /mnt/repos/
```

Set up local, HTTP, and FTP repositories by appending content to the ahmed.repo file
 cat /etc/yum.repos.d/redhat.repo >> /etc/yum.repos.d/ahmed.repo Then, edit the ahmed.repo to
 include the repositories.

```
[Ahmed_Repo]
name=Ahmed Repo (Source DVD)
baseurl=file///repo/BaseOS
enabled=1
gpgcheck=1
gpgkey=file///repo/RPM-GPG-KEY-redhat-release
[Ahmed_Repo2]
name=Ahmed Repo2 (Source DVD)
baseurl=file///mnt/repos/AppStream
enabled=1
gpgcheck=0
[rhel9base]
name=RHEL 9 BaseOS
baseurl=http//mirror.centos.org/centos/9/os/x86_64/
enabled=1
gpgcheck=0
[myftp]
name=My FTP Repository
baseurl=ftp//ftp.example.com/pub/rhel/9/x86 64/
enabled=1
gpgcheck=0
```

Checking and Managing Repositories

- Removes cached packages and metadata dnf clean all
- To see all enabled repositories dnf repolist
- To list all repositories dnf repolist all
- Enable a Repository dnf config-manager --set-enabled epel
- Disable a Repository dnf config-manager --set-disabled epel
- To add a repository using dnf dnf config-manager -add-repo="file///repo/BaseOS"
- To install nginx from the Ahmed_Repo yum install nginx --disablerepo=* -enablerepo=Ahmed_Repo

Using dnf

dnf has mostly replaced yum in recent Red Hat-based distributions. It offers similar functionality but with improved dependency resolution and other features.

1. Queries

- Count all packages (nstalled, available, and available updates) dnf list | wc -1
- List All Installed Packages dnf list installed
- List Available Packages dnf list available
- List Package Information dnf info httpd; dnf list httpd
- Search for Packages by Description dnf search all web server
- Find package that provides a file or binary dnf provides bash
- o dnf repoquery --whatprovides webserver
- o dnf repoquery --list httpd | grep '^/etc'
- Show Package Dependencies dnf deplist httpd

2. Package Management

- Install dnf install nmap -y
- Install Multiple Packages dnf install httpd
- Remove dnf remove httpd
- Check for package updates dnf check-update
- Update system dnf update
- Update a specific package (e.g., kernel) dnf update kernel
- Download a Package Without Installing dnf download httpd
- download a package along with its dependencies dnf download --resolve httpd

3. History

- View package management history dnf history
- Undo a specific transaction dnf history undo 21
- View a specific transaction dnf history info 21
- Reverts the system to the state it was in just before the transaction 21 dnf history rollback 21

4. Group Management

- List groups dnf group list
- Get group details dnf group info "Virtualization Host"
- Install group with optional packages dnf group install --with-optional "Minimal Install"
- Remove group with optional packages dnf group remove --with-optional "Server with GUI"