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35

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# 29 Practical Examples of Nmap Commands for Linux System/Network Administrators

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by [Tarunika Shrivastava](#) | Published: December 11, 2013 | Last Updated: January 3, 2015

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The **Nmap** aka **Network Mapper** is an open source and a very versatile tool for Linux system/network administrators. **Nmap** is used for **exploring networks**, **perform security scans**, **network audit** and **finding open ports** on remote machine. It scans for Live hosts, Operating systems, packet filters and open ports running on remote hosts.



I'll be covering most of **NMAP** usage in two different parts and this is the first part of nmap serious. Here in this setup, I have used two servers without firewall to test the working of the Nmap command.

- 192.168.0.100 – server1.tecmint.com
- 192.168.0.101 – server2.tecmint.com



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## Nmap command usage

```
# nmap [Scan Type(s)] [Options]
```

## How to Install NMAP in Linux

Most of the today's Linux distributions like Red Hat, CentOS, Fedora, Debian and Ubuntu have included **Nmap** in their default package management repositories called **Yum** and **APT**. The both tools are used to install and manage software packages and updates. To install **Nmap** on distribution specific use the following command.

```
# yum install nmap

$ sudo apt-get install nmap
```

Once you've install latest nmap application, you can follow the example instructions provided in this article.

## 1. Scan a System with Hostname and IP Address

The **Nmap** tool offers various methods to

scan a system. In this example,

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performing a scan using hostname as **server2.tecmint.com** to find out all open ports, services and MAC address on the system.

## Scan using Hostname

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap server2.tecmint.com
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://nmap.org )
Interesting ports on server2.tecmint.com:
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerbook
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:5A

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
You have new mail in /var/spool/mail/root
```

## Scan using IP Address

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap 192.168.1.100
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://nmap.org )
Interesting ports on server2.tecmint.com:
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
```

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE
```

```
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
958/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 2. Scan using “-v” option

You can see that the below command with “-v” option is giving more detailed information about the remote machine.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -v se

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Initiating ARP Ping Scan aga
The ARP Ping Scan took 0.01s
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan
Discovered open port 22/tcp
Discovered open port 80/tcp
Discovered open port 8888/tc
Discovered open port 111/tcp
Discovered open port 3306/tc
Discovered open port 957/tcp
The SYN Stealth Scan took 0.
Host server2.tecmint.com (19
Interesting ports on server2
```

```
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
Raw packets s
```

## Scan Multiple Hosts

You can scan multiple hosts by simply writing their IP addresses or hostnames with Nmap.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap 192.1
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
```

```
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:  
Nmap finished: 3 IP addresses
```

## 4. Scan a whole Subnet

You can scan a whole subnet or IP range with Nmap by providing **\* wildcard** with it.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap 192.1
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://  
Interesting ports on server1  
Not shown: 1677 closed ports  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
22/tcp    open  ssh  
111/tcp   open  rpcbind  
851/tcp   open  unknown
```

```
Interesting ports on server2  
Not shown: 1674 closed ports  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
22/tcp    open  ssh  
80/tcp    open  http  
111/tcp   open  rpcbind  
957/tcp   open  unknown  
3306/tcp  open  mysql  
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo  
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
```

```
Nmap finished: 256 IP addresses  
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

On above output you can see that nmap scanned a whole subnet and gave the information about those hosts which are **Up in the Network**.

## 5. Scan Multiple Servers using last octet of IP address

You can perform scans on multiple IP address by simple specifying last octet of IP address. For example, here I performing a scan on IP addresses 192.168.0.101, 192.168.0.102 and 192.168.0.103.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap 192.1
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
```

```
Nmap finished: 3 IP addresse
You have new mail in /var/sp
```



## 6. Scan list of Hosts from a File

If you have more hosts to scan and all host details are written in a file , you can directly ask nmap to read that file and perform scans. Let's see how to do that.

Create a text file called "nmaptest.txt" and define all the IP addresses or hostname of the server that you want to do a scan.

```
[root@server1 ~]# cat > nmaptest.txt  
  
localhost  
server2.tecmint.com  
192.168.0.101
```

Next, run the following command with "iL" option with nmap command to scan all listed IP address in the file.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -iL nmaptest.txt  
  
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://nmap.org )  
Interesting ports on localhost:  
Not shown: 1675 closed ports  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
22/tcp    open  ssh  
25/tcp    open  smtp  
111/tcp   open  rpcbind  
631/tcp   open  ipp
```

```
857/tcp open  unknown
```

```
Interesting ports on server2
```

```
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
```

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

22/tcp	open	ssh
--------	------	-----

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

111/tcp	open	rpcbind
---------	------	---------

958/tcp	open	unknown
---------	------	---------

3306/tcp	open	mysql
----------	------	-------

8888/tcp	open	sun-answerboo
----------	------	---------------

```
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
```

```
Interesting ports on server2
```

```
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
```

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

22/tcp	open	ssh
--------	------	-----

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

111/tcp	open	rpcbind
---------	------	---------

958/tcp	open	unknown
---------	------	---------

3306/tcp	open	mysql
----------	------	-------

8888/tcp	open	sun-answerboo
----------	------	---------------

```
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
```

```
Nmap finished: 3 IP addresse
```

## 7. Scan an IP Address Range

You can specify an IP range while performing scan with Nmap.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap 192.1
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 10 IP address
```

## 8. Scan Network Excluding Remote Hosts

You can exclude some hosts while performing a full network scan or when you are scanning with wildcards with “**–exclude**” option.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap 192.1
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
```

```
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 255 IP addresses scanned
You have new mail in /var/spool/mail/root
```

## 9. Scan OS information and Traceroute

With Nmap, you can detect which OS and version is running on the remote host. To enable OS & version detection, script scanning and traceroute, we can use “-A” option with NMAP.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -A 192.168.1.100

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://nmap.org )
Interesting ports on server2:
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 6.6p1 Ubuntu
80/tcp    open  http     Apache/2.4.6-2ubuntu
111/tcp   open  rpcbind  2 (rpcbind)
957/tcp   open  status   1 (rpcbind)
3306/tcp  open  mysql    MySQL 5.5.5-10.0.2
8888/tcp  open  http     lighttpd/1.4.44
```

```
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:85
```

```
No exact OS matches for host
TCP/IP fingerprint:
SInfo(V=4.11%P=i686-redhat-1
TSeq(Class=TR%IPID=Z%TS=1000
T1(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=16A0%ACK=S+
T2(Resp=N)
T3(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=16A0%ACK=S+
T4(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=0%Fla
T5(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=S++%F
T6(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=0%Fla
T7(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=S++%F
PU(Resp=Y%DF=N%TOS=C0%IPLEN=

Uptime 0.169 days (since Mon

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

In above Output, you can see that nmap is came up with TCP/IP fingerprint of the OS running on remote hosts and being more specific about the port and services running on the remote hosts.

## 10. Enable OS Detection with Nmap

Use the option "-O" and "-osscan-guess" also helps to discover OS information.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -O se
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
No exact OS matches for host
TCP/IP fingerprint:
SInfo(V=4.11%P=i686-redhat-1
TSeq(Class=TR%IPID=Z%TS=1000
T1(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=16A0%ACK=S+
T2(Resp=N)
T3(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=16A0%ACK=S+
T4(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=0%Fla
R%Ops=)
T5(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=S++%F
T6(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=0%Fla
T7(Resp=Y%DF=Y%W=0%ACK=S++%F
PU(Resp=Y%DF=N%TOS=C0%IPLEN=

Uptime 0.221 days (since Mon

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 11. Scan a Host to Detect

The below command will perform a scan on a remote host to detect if any packet filters or Firewall is used by host.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -sA 1

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
All 1680 scanned ports on se
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 12. Scan a Host to check its protected by Firewall

To scan a host if it is protected by any packet filtering software or Firewalls.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -PN 1

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
```

```
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
```

```
Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 13. Find out Live hosts in a Network

With the help of “-sP” option we can simply check which hosts are live and up in Network, with this option nmap skips port detection and other things.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -sP 1
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://  
Host server1.tecmint.com (19  
Host server2.tecmint.com (19  
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:  
Nmap finished: 256 IP addres
```

## 14. Perform a Fast Scan

You can perform a fast scan with “-F” option to scans for the ports listed in the nmap-services files and leaves all other ports.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -F 19
```

```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
```

Interesting ports c 18 Tar Command Examples in Linux



```
Not shown: 1234 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 15. Find Nmap version

You can find out Nmap version you are running on your machine with “-V” option.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -V

Nmap version 4.11 ( http://w
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 16. Scan Ports Consecutively

Use the “-r” flag to don't randomize.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -r 19

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
```

Not shown: 1674 closed ports 18 Tar Command Examples in Linux

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 17. Print Host interfaces and Routes

You can find out host interface and route information with nmap by using “-iflist” option.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap --iflist

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
*****INTERFACES*****
DEV  (SHORT) IP/MASK
lo   (lo)    127.0.0.1/8
eth0 (eth0)  192.168.0.100/24

*****ROUTES*****
DST/MASK      DEV  GATEWAY
192.168.0.0/0 eth0
169.254.0.0/0 eth0
```

In above output, you can see that map is listing interfaces attached to your system and their respective routes.

## 18. Scan for specific Port

There are various options to discover ports on remote machine with Nmap. You can specify the port you want nmap to scan with “-p” option, by default nmap scans only TCP ports.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -p 80

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
PORT      STATE SERVICE
80/tcp    open  http
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 19. Scan a TCP Port

You can also specify specific port types and numbers with nmap to scan.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -p T:

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
PORT      STATE SERVICE
```

```
80/tcp    open  http
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 20. Scan a UDP Port

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -sU 5

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
PORT      STATE SERVICE
53/udp    open  http
8888/udp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 21. Scan Multiple Ports

You can also scan multiple ports using option “-p”.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -p 80

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
PORT      STATE SERVICE
80/tcp    open  http
```

```
443/tcp closed https
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 22. Scan Ports by Network Range

You can scan ports with ranges using expressions.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -p 8
```

## 23. Find Host Services version Numbers

We can find out service's versions which are running on remote hosts with "-sV" option.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -sV 1

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH
80/tcp    open  http     Apache/
111/tcp   open  rpcbind  2 (r
957/tcp   open  status   1 (r
```

```
3306/tcp open  mysql  MySQL
8888/tcp open  http   light
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
```

## 24. Scan remote hosts using TCP ACK (PA) and TCP Syn (PS)

Sometimes packet filtering firewalls blocks standard ICMP ping requests, in that case, we can use TCP ACK and TCP Syn methods to scan remote hosts.

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -PS 1

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 25. Scan Remote host for specific ports with TCP ACK

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -PA -  
  
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://  
Interesting ports on server2  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
22/tcp    open  ssh  
80/tcp    open  http  
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:  
  
Nmap finished: 1 IP address  
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 26. Scan Remote host for specific ports with TCP Syn

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -PS -  
  
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://  
Interesting ports on server2  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
22/tcp    open  ssh  
80/tcp    open  http  
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
```

```
Nmap finished: 1 IP address  
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 27. Perform a stealthy Scan

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -sS 1

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address  
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 28. Check most commonly used Ports with TCP Syn

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -sT 1
```



```
Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http
111/tcp   open  rpcbind
957/tcp   open  unknown
3306/tcp  open  mysql
8888/tcp  open  sun-answerboo
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:

Nmap finished: 1 IP address
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

## 29. Perform a tcp null scan to fool a firewall

```
[root@server1 ~]# nmap -sN 1

Starting Nmap 4.11 ( http://
Interesting ports on server2
Not shown: 1674 closed ports
PORT      STATE      SERVI
22/tcp    open|filtered ssh
80/tcp    open|filtered http
111/tcp   open|filtered rpcbi
957/tcp   open|filtered unkno
3306/tcp  open|filtered mysql
8888/tcp  open|filtered sun-a
MAC Address: 08:00:27:D9:8E:
```

```
Nmap finished: 1 IP address  
You have new mail in /var/sp
```

That's it with **NMAP** for now, I'll be coming up more creative options of **NMAP** in our second part of this series. Till then, stay tuned with us and don't forget to share your valuable comments.

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**ruchi** ⌚ May 22, 2019 at 11:00 am

Hello,

I was doing **udp** port scanning on **nmap**. I have some udp ports open but in nmap it is showing open | filtered only. Please give me solution for this. Is there any other tool for this?

Reply

**jared** ⌚ February 19, 2019 at 4:58 am

This article was very helpful! Thanks for taking the time to write this.

Reply

**Muhammad Karam Shehzad**

⌚ November 4, 2016 at 5:09 pm

What is the best way to go about finding all ports being used by MySQL for clustering purposes?

I am on Linux platform with MySQL NDB 5.7. I am trying to monitor all traffic related to MySQL clustering – between data nodes, management node and sql nodes. To that end, I used netstat to list all open ports listening on my machine before starting MySQL cluster. Then, I started MySQL cluster and ran netstat again. I assumed that the ports that were listening the second time around, but not the first time, were related to MySQL clustering.

But there are two problems with this. First, there could be ports opened by other processes between the two netstat runs. Second, MySQL might open other ports after I ran the netstat command the second time.


What is the best way to go about finding all ports being used by MySQL for clustering purposes? I believe ephemeral ports are picked dynamically, so perhaps if I knew all the MySQL

be running, I can figure out every port that they are using. Pointers will be very welcome.


Reply

**joy**  November 3, 2016 at 2:53 pm  
nice post

Reply

**borris**  July 9, 2016 at 12:21 am  
very nice article thanks although i did already learned all this just by reading the man page supplied by nmap :)

Reply

**bustdathing**  January 3, 2016 at 9:15 pm  
Good article, but using a version of Nmap many versions behind. Also should review the NSE ( NMAP SCRIPTING ENGINE) , very powerful. Version 7 of nmap brings a lot of interesting features to the table.

Reply

**Ravi Saive**



 January 4, 2016 at 10:41 am

@Bustdathing,

Thanks for updating about NSE (NMAP SCRIPTING ENGINE).. never heard about it...Let me check and see what kind of other features its provides than standard Nmap..

Reply

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