NAME

last, lastb − show a listing of last logged in users

SYNOPSIS

last [options] [*username*...] [*tty*...]

lastb [options] [*username*...] [*tty*...]

DESCRIPTION

last searches back through the */var/log/wtmp* file (or the file designated by the −**f** option) and displays a list of all users logged in (and out) since that file was created. One or more *usernames* and/or *ttys* can be given, in which case **last** will show only the entries matching those arguments. Names of *ttys* can be abbreviated, thus **last 0** is the same as **last tty0**.

When catching a **SIGINT** signal (generated by the interrupt key, usually control−C) or a **SIGQUIT** signal, **last** will show how far it has searched through the file; in the case of the **SIGINT** signal **last** will then terminate.

The pseudo user **reboot** logs in each time the system is rebooted. Thus **last reboot** will show a log of all the reboots since the log file was created.

lastb is the same as **last**, except that by default it shows a log of the */var/log/btmp* file, which contains all the bad login attempts.

OPTIONS

−a, **−−hostlast**
> Display the hostname in the last column. Useful in combination with the **−−dns** option.

−d, **−−dns**
> For non−local logins, Linux stores not only the host name of the remote host, but its IP number as well. This option translates the IP number back into a hostname.

−f, **−−file** *file*
> Tell **last** to use a specific *file* instead of */var/log/wtmp*. The **−−file** option can be given multiple times, and all of the specified files will be processed.

−F, **−−fulltimes**
> Print full login and logout times and dates.

−i, **−−ip**
> Like **−−dns ,** but displays the host's IP number instead of the name.

−*number*; **−n**, **−−limit** *number*
> Tell **last** how many lines to show.

−p, **−−present** *time*
> Display the users who were present at the specified time. This is like using the options **−−since** and **−−until** together with the same *time*.

−R, **−−nohostname**
> Suppresses the display of the hostname field.

−s, **−−since** *time*
> Display the state of logins since the specified *time*. This is useful, e.g., to easily determine who was logged in at a particular time. The option is often combined with **−−until**.

−t, **−−until** *time*
>   Display the state of logins until the specified *time*.

−−time−format *format*
>   Define the output timestamp *format* to be one of *notime*, *short*, *full*, or *iso*. The *notime* variant will not print any timestamps at all, *short* is the default, and *full* is the same as the **−−fulltimes** option. The *iso* variant will display the timestamp in ISO−8601 format. The ISO format contains timezone information, making it preferable when printouts are investigated outside of the system.

−w, **−−fullnames**
>   Display full user names and domain names in the output.

−x, **−−system**
>   Display the system shutdown entries and run level changes.

−h, **−−help**
>   Display help text and exit.

−V, **−−version**
>   Print version and exit.

TIME FORMATS

The options that take the *time* argument understand the following formats:

YYYYMMDDhhmmss	
YYYY−MM−DD hh:mm:ss	
YYYY−MM−DD hh:mm	(seconds will be set to 00)
YYYY−MM−DD	(time will be set to 00:00:00)
hh:mm:ss	(date will be set to today)
hh:mm	(date will be set to today, seconds to 00)
now	
yesterday	(time is set to 00:00:00)
today	(time is set to 00:00:00)
tomorrow	(time is set to 00:00:00)
+5min	
−5days	

FILES

/var/log/wtmp, */var/log/btmp*

NOTES

The files *wtmp* and *btmp* might not be found. The system only logs information in these files if they are present. This is a local configuration issue. If you want the files to be used, they can be created with a simple **touch**(1) command (for example, **touch /var/log/wtmp**).

An empty entry is a valid type of wtmp entry. It means that an empty file or file with zeros is not interpreted as an error.

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SEE ALSO

login(1), **wtmp**(5), **init**(8), **shutdown**(8)

REPORTING BUGS

For bug reports, use the issue tracker at https://github.com/util−linux/util−linux/issues.

AVAILABILITY

The **last** command is part of the util−linux package which can be downloaded from Linux Kernel Archive <https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util−linux/>.