Troubleshooting Linux Network Services

[service] = desired service name

In this guide I will cover some typical issues when using network services through Linux and how to correct them, so that the service may work as intended.

1. First, ensure the service exists by checking its status or by searching the directory it should belong to. Either type: **systemctl status [service] or cd file/path/to/directory.**

If the service is there and its status isn’t faulting, aside from not working, now try to start the service by typing: **systemctl start [service]**

If this doesn’t work depending of the error message you may need to be a root/superuser, enable the service, or have the service blocked by firewall.

1. For root/superuser being the issue, granted you have access to this level of operation, you need to login into/as one to start/use the service. Try typing: **su,** then username (if asked/needed, if not root is assumed), then password.
2. Now if enabling the service is the issue, this is likely because the service requires a restart or to be ran at boot, the fix for this is typing: **systemctl enable [service].** \*you may need to be root/superuser\*

Firewalls are going to vary, depending on the firewall and the configuration. Main thing to ensure here would be to verify the service is allowed the freedoms and ports needed. As long as this is set, the variation of firewalls, nor configurations matter. If they do have access/should, start where I suggested and work your way out.

To check which port a service uses type: **apt install netstat-nat** (which installs a network service) then type the command: **netstat -plnt** (which outputs desired service network info).