

systemd Cheat Sheet

Service Management

Start a service: `sudo systemctl start <service>`
Stop a service: `sudo systemctl stop <service>`
Restart a service: `sudo systemctl restart <service>`
Reload config: `sudo systemctl reload <service>`
Show status: `systemctl status <service>`
Enable at boot: `sudo systemctl enable <service>`
Disable at boot: `sudo systemctl disable <service>`
Check if enabled: `systemctl is-enabled <service>`
Show recent logs: `journalctl -u <service>`
Show & follow logs: `journalctl -u <service> -f`
Show logs (since today): `journalctl -u <service> --since today`

System Management

List all units: `systemctl list-units`
List failed units: `systemctl --failed`
List all services: `systemctl list-units --type=service`
Reload systemd: `sudo systemctl daemon-reload`
Reboot system: `sudo systemctl reboot`
Poweroff system: `sudo systemctl poweroff`

Service File Locations

System services: `/etc/systemd/system/` or `/lib/systemd/system/`
User services: `~/.config/systemd/user/`

Common Usage Examples

Start Nginx: `sudo systemctl start nginx`

Show status of sshd: `systemctl status ssh`

View logs for jenkins: `journalctl -u jenkins -f`

Enable custom service: `sudo systemctl enable myscript.service`

Create/Edit a Service

1. Create: `/etc/systemd/system/myapp.service`

2. Example:

[Unit]

Description=My App

[Service]

ExecStart=/usr/bin/python3 /path/to/app.py

Restart=always

[Install]

WantedBy=multi-user.target

3. Reload and enable:

`sudo systemctl daemon-reload`

`sudo systemctl enable myapp`

`sudo systemctl start myapp`