

Loading at boot time

- Rules created with the iptables command **are stored only in memory**.
- If the system is restarted before saving the iptables rule set, all rules are lost.
- **iptables-save** dumps rules to stdout or a file
- **iptables-restore** loads rules into memory from a file

How to save iptables rules after restart:

1. General solution.

Create a script that contains all iptables rules and load that script at boot time for exemple from `/etc/rc.local`

2. RedHat/CentOS

Execute `/sbin/service iptables save`. This command runs **iptables-save** that writes iptables configuration to `/etc/sysconfig/iptables`

Loading at boot time (cont)

3. Ubuntu and Debian-based distros

A. Install iptables-persistent

`sudo apt-get update`

`sudo apt-get install iptables-persistent`

iptables-persistent automatically loads rules set from `/etc/iptables/rules.v4`

B. Save iptables rules

`iptables-save > /etc/iptables/rules.v4`

C. Remove persistent iptables rules

`Edit /etc/iptables/rules.v4`