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Linux Security Command Cheat Sheet

Last updated on April 23rd, 2023 - by John Gomez - Leave a Comment

The Linux Security command line interface manages security-related tasks on a Linux system. The commands in this section are used to create and monitor security features, as well as audit security on the system.

Command	Description	
passwd	Users can use this command to change their passwords.	
chpasswd	This command is used to change the passwords of multiple user accounts at once.	
chroot	By using this command, you can create a virtualized system with limited resources.	
chmod	It is used to change the permissions of a file or directory.	
chown	It is used to change the owner of a file or directory.	
su	This command is used to switch to another user account.	
sudo	This command is used to execute a command as another user, usually the root user.	
ssh	This command is used to establish a secure remote connection to another system.	
scp	This command is used to securely copy files between systems.	
sftp	This command is used to securely transfer files between systems.	
iptables	This command is used to manage firewall rules and configurations.	

Command	Description		
netstat	This command is used to display active network connections and their status.		
tcpdump	This command is used to capture and analyze network traffic.		
nmap	This command is used to scan and detect open ports on a system or network.		
fail2ban	This command is used to monitor log files and ban IP addresses that show suspicious activity.		
lynis	This is a security auditing tool for Linux and Unix-based systems. It performs a system scan and provides a report of security issues, recommendations, and configuration errors.		
snort	Snort is a free and open-source network intrusion detection system. It monitors network traffic and alerts administrators when it detects suspicious activity.		
gpg	GNU Privacy Guard (GPG) is a free software implementation of the OpenPGP standard. It is used for encrypting and signing files and emails.		
openssl	This command-line tool is used for encryption, decryption, and certificate management. It supports a wide range of cryptographic algorithms and protocols.		
ufw	Uncomplicated Firewall (UFW) is a user-friendly front-end tool for managing iptable firewall rules. It simplifies the process of configuring firewall rules by providing a set of pre-configured profiles for common services and applications.		
firewalld	This command-line tool manages firewall rules on Linux systems. It provides a dynamically managed firewall with support for network zones and services.		
selinux	This is a security module that provides mandatory access control for Linux systems. It restricts access to resources based on the security context of processes and files.		
chkrootkit	A command used for detecting rootkits and other types of malware on a Linux system.		
rkhunter	A command used for detecting rootkits, backdoors, and other types of malware on a Linux system.		

Command	Description	
auditd	A command used for auditing and monitoring system activity. It records events and activities on the system, allowing you to investigate security incidents.	
logwatch	This is a command used for analyzing log files and generating reports. It can be used to detect security breaches and other unusual activity.	
tripwire	This command is used for file integrity monitoring. It detects unauthorized changes to critical system files and alerts you to potential security breaches.	
apparmor	This is a security framework that provides mandatory access control for Linux applications. It can be used to limit the access of applications to critical system resources.	
OpenSCAP	This command is used for system hardening and compliance checking. It provides a framework for assessing and improving the security posture of the system.	
AIDE	This is an advanced intrusion detection system that monitors files and directories for changes. It can help detect unauthorized changes to system files, which may be a sign of a security breach.	

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