Reed McFadden

TS/SCI • linkedin.com/in/reed-mcfadden • github.com/reedmcfadden • reedmcfadden.github.io/resume

Summary

DevOps/Linux engineer focused on automation, infrastructure-as-code, cloud platforms, and secure Linux systems. Experienced with RHEL, Ansible, Terraform, AWS, CI/CD pipelines, observability tooling, and hardened DoD environments. Passionate about building reliable, scalable, and fully automated infrastructure.

Technical Skills

- RHCE, RHCSA, Security+, Linux+, AWS Cloud Practitioner
- Linux (RHEL, Rocky), virtualization (vSphere, ESXi, KVM, Proxmox), containers (Docker, Podman)
- Infrastructure-as-Code: Ansible, Terraform, YAML, Git, Bash, Perl
- CI/CD: GitHub Actions, GitLab CI/CD, artifact pipelines, automated testing workflows
- AWS: EC2, IAM, VPC, S3, security groups, cloud automation
- Security & Compliance: STIGs, SELinux, PKI, system hardening, vulnerability remediation
- Observability: Grafana, Loki, Promtail, Telegraf, InfluxDB

Experience

Linux Engineer
September 2025 – Present

General Dynamics Mission Systems (GDMS)

- Automated provisioning, configuration, and compliance of secure Linux systems using Ansible and scripted workflows.
- Contributed to configuration management workflows, documentation standards, and peer review processes.
- Developed automated system and UI validation tests integrated into CI pipelines using Robot Framework and Selenium.
- Contributed to CI/CD pipeline design, artifact management standards, and automation strategy for testing and infrastructure workflows.

Principal Systems Administrator
March 2025 - June 2025

BAE Systems

- Coordinated team workflows and reporting, ensuring continuous delivery of infrastructure tasks during team lead absence.
- Automated the application of quarterly STIG changes across 50 RHEL 8 systems using Ansible, significantly enhancing security posture and reducing compliance time by 80%.
- Updated fapolicyd trust policies to support secure application execution and access workflows.
- Implemented SELinux RBAC mappings to enforce identity boundaries and support Kerberos authentication.
- Diagnosed and remediated vulnerability scanning issues, improving security baseline adherence across RHEL systems.
- Automated Linux patching workflows using Ansible and Satellite to enforce configuration drift control.
- Mentored junior Linux administrators, providing guidance and resolving technical blockers to maintain team productivity.
- Worked with Red Hat IDM and Satellite daily to verify everything was running as expected.

Linux Administrator
September 2024 - February 2025

Stratascorp

- Scanned and remediated RHEL 8 STIGs across secure DoD networks.
- Synchronized RHEL 8 package updates across classified environments to maintain system compliance.
- Maintained and updated enterprise vulnerability scanning platforms to ensure continuous compliance.
- Resolved service-level issues impacting security scanning platform availability.
- Developed standardized automation scripts and scheduled jobs to reduce operational toil and streamline maintenance workflows.
- Helped with running stig evaluations on multiple servers on classified and unclassified networks and implemented and scripted remediations for automation.
- Ensured availability of compliance and scanning services by maintaining plugin, service, and update workflows.
- Improved system reliability by diagnosing NTP drift issues and implementing automated

synchronization checks.
- Performed normal linux server maintenance, including package updates, downtime resolution, and system hardening.

Software Engineer II August 2022 - March 2024
Assured Information Security (AIS)

- Diagnosed and resolved hardware-integration, kernel, and system-level issues in hardened Linux environments.
- Completed and booted into Linux From Scratch (LFS) as part of an onboarding challenge.
- Implemented automated log offloading using Go/Python to ship system logs from hardened Linux endpoints to central logging infrastructure.
- Coded sections of a desktop application with the backend in Rust, and the frontend in React JavaScript.
- Diagnosed and resolved virtualization and kernel-level issues on hardened Linux systems.
- Built reproducible system images using Yocto, BitBake, and containerized build workflows.
- Automated bootloader configuration and filesystem verification workflows using Perl scripting.

Computer Scientist July 2020 - August 2022
United States Air Force

- Diagnosed and resolved critical data-processing failures in aviation mission-support systems.
- Implemented updated communication logic to integrate aviation systems with modern radio hardware.
- Built automated unit and integration tests using C++ and Google Test to reduce manual testing overhead.

DevOps & Cloud Projects

- Built automated configuration and provisioning workflows using **Ansible** roles and playbooks to manage RHEL/Rocky Linux nodes in a multi-machine lab environment.
- Created CI/CD pipelines using **GitHub Actions** to lint and validate infrastructure code, run automated tests, and publish versioned build artifacts.
- Built Linux automation scripts (Bash, Python) to reduce manual toil for patching, log management, system validation, and recurring maintenance tasks.
- Set up a multi-node virtualization lab using **Proxmox/KVM** for testing automation pipelines, configuration management, and infrastructure changes in a controlled environment.

Education

Southern Arkansas University Expected: December 2025
M.S. in Computer and Information Science

Utah Valley University April 2020
B.S. in Computer Science (GPA: 3.6 / 4.0)