

Linux Commands

# List of essential Linux security commands

3 years ago • by David Adams

This tutorial shows some of the most basic Linux commands oriented to security.

## Using the command **netstat** to find open ports:

One of the most basic commands to monitor the state of your device is **netstat** which shows the open ports and established connections.

Below an example of the **netstat** with additional options output:

```
# netstat -anp
```

```

root@montsegur:~# netstat -anp
Active Internet connections (servers and established)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address           Foreign Address         State       PID/Program name
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:5939          0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      1254/teamviewerd
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:8084            0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      933/mono
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:25            0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      1431/exim4
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:37722     172.217.162.14:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:46214     31.13.94.52:443       ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:37182     172.217.172.78:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:35332     172.217.172.106:443    TIME_WAIT   -
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:44964     172.217.30.238:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:36172     172.217.172.99:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:35458     18.223.3.241:514       ESTABLISHED 878/rsyslogd
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:38416     172.217.192.189:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:36140     172.217.172.99:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:35460     18.223.3.241:514       ESTABLISHED 878/rsyslogd
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:46994     172.217.172.100:443    ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:42142     172.217.172.69:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp6       0      0 :::1:25                 :::*                    LISTEN      1431/exim4
udp        0      0 0.0.0.0:68              0.0.0.0:*               5454/dhclient
udp        0      0 0.0.0.0:68              0.0.0.0:*               2481/dhclient
udp        0      0 0.0.0.0:54031           0.0.0.0:*               894/avahi-daemon: r
udp        0      0 0.0.0.0:5353            0.0.0.0:*               894/avahi-daemon: r
udp6       0      0 :::37602                :::*                    894/avahi-daemon: r
udp6       0      0 :::5353                 :::*                    894/avahi-daemon: r
raw6       0      0 :::58                   :::*                    7          888/NetworkManager

Active UNIX domain sockets (servers and established)
Proto RefCnt Flags   Type       State      I-Node  PID/Program name  Path
unix   2      [ ACC ]  STREAM    LISTENING  22665    985/Xorg           /tmp/.X11-unix/X0
unix   2      [ ACC ]  STREAM    LISTENING  23527    1483/mate-session  @/tmp/.ICE-unix/1483
unix   2      [ ACC ]  STREAM    LISTENING  23445    1534/ssh-agent     /tmp/ssh-z4FfepN2uFBK/agent.1483

```

## Where:

- a: shows the state for sockets.
- n: shows IP addresses instead of hosts.
- p: shows the program establishing the connection.

An output extract better look:

```

linuxhint@montsegur: ~
root@montsegur:~# netstat -anp
Active Internet connections (servers and established)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address           Foreign Address         State       PID/Program name
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:5939          0.0.0.0:*                LISTEN      1254/teamviewer
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:8084            0.0.0.0:*                LISTEN      933/mono
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:25            0.0.0.0:*                LISTEN      1431/exim4
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:37722     172.217.162.14:443      ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:46214     31.13.94.52:443        ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:37182     172.217.172.78:443      ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:35332     172.217.172.106:443     TIME_WAIT   -
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:44964     172.217.30.238:443      ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:36172     172.217.172.99:443      ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0 1829 192.168.43.38:35458     18.223.3.241:514        ESTABLISHED 878/rsyslogd
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:38416     172.217.192.189:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:36140     172.217.172.99:443      ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0 1829 192.168.43.38:35460     18.223.3.241:514        ESTABLISHED 878/rsyslogd
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:46994     172.217.172.100:443     ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp        0      0 192.168.43.38:42142     172.217.172.69:443      ESTABLISHED 28326/firefox-esr
tcp6       0      0 :::1:25                 :::*                     LISTEN      1431/exim4
udp        0      0 0.0.0.0:68              0.0.0.0:*                LISTEN      5454/dhclient

```

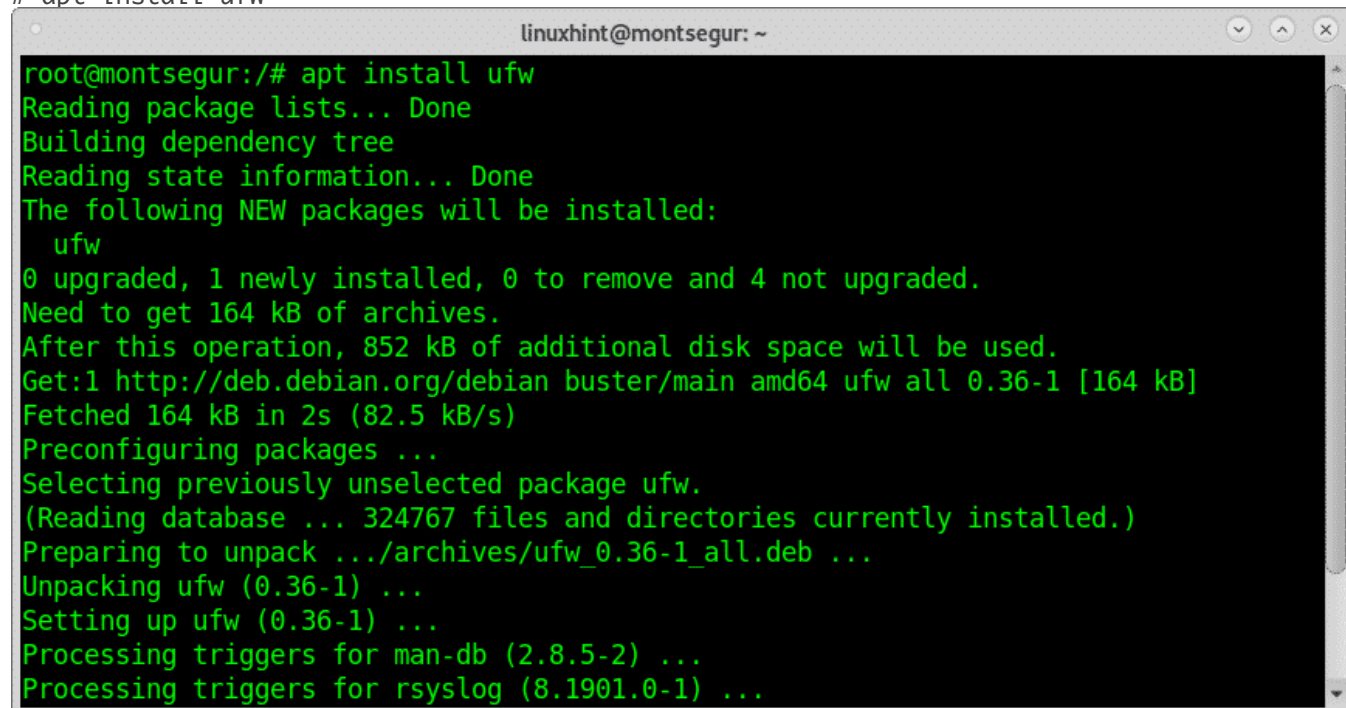
The first column shows the protocol, you can see both TCP and UDP are included, the first screenshot also shows UNIX sockets. If you are suspicious that something is wrong, checking ports is of course mandatory.

## Setting basic rules with UFW:

LinuxHint has published great tutorials on [UFW](#) and [Iptables](#), here I will focus on a restrictive policy firewall. It is recommended to keep a restrictive policy denying all incoming traffic unless you want it to be allowed.

To install UFW run:

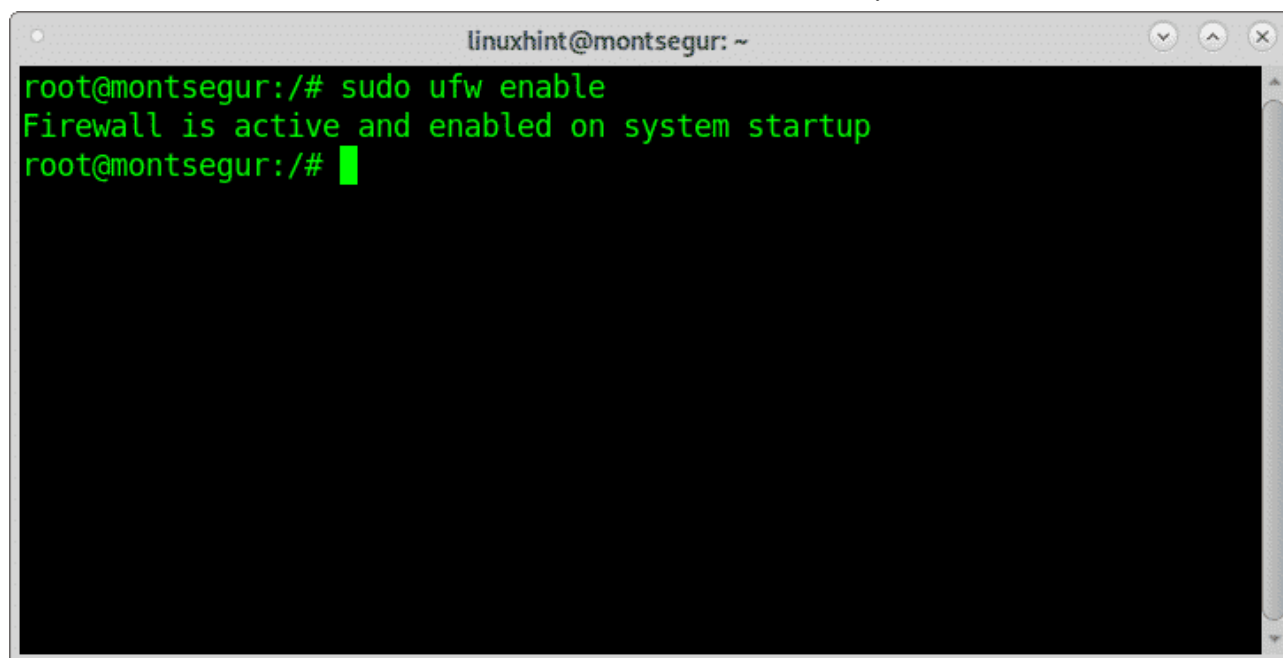
```
# apt install ufw
```

A terminal window titled 'linuxhint@montsegur: ~' showing the output of the command 'apt install ufw'. The output is as follows:

```
root@montsegur:/# apt install ufw
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  ufw
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 4 not upgraded.
Need to get 164 kB of archives.
After this operation, 852 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://deb.debian.org/debian buster/main amd64 ufw all 0.36-1 [164 kB]
Fetched 164 kB in 2s (82.5 kB/s)
Preconfiguring packages ...
Selecting previously unselected package ufw.
(Reading database ... 324767 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../archives/ufw_0.36-1_all.deb ...
Unpacking ufw (0.36-1) ...
Setting up ufw (0.36-1) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.8.5-2) ...
Processing triggers for rsyslog (8.1901.0-1) ...
```

To enable the firewall at startup run:

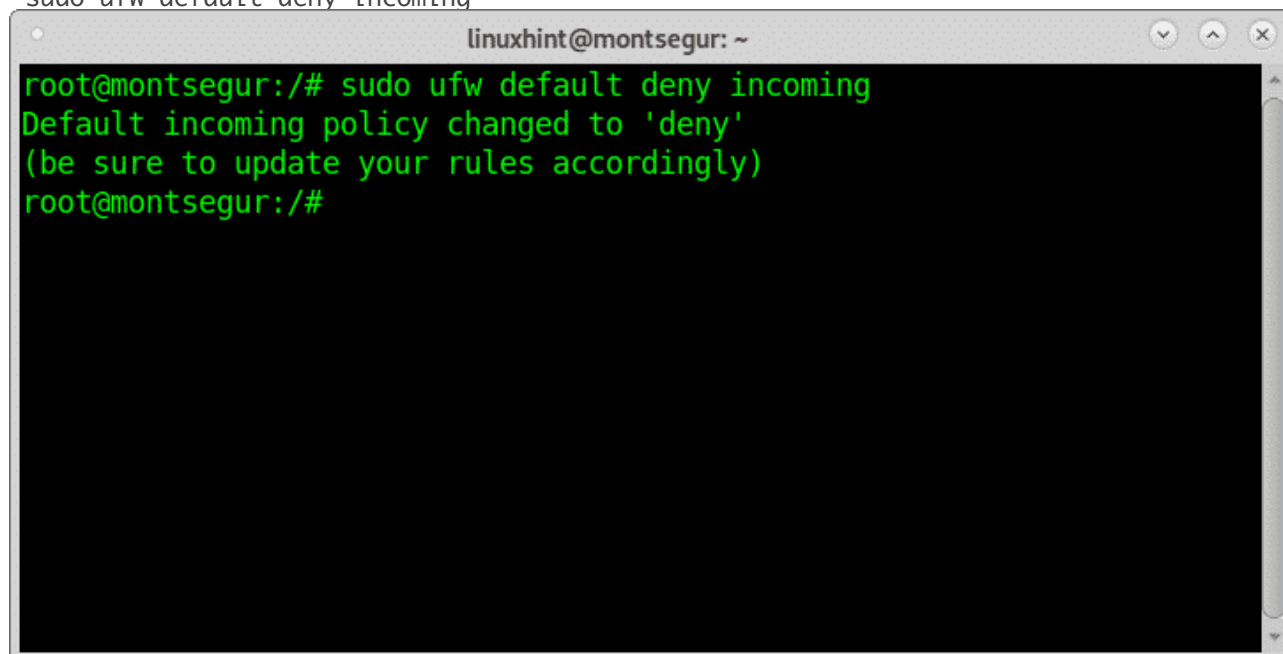
```
# sudo ufw enable
```

A terminal window titled 'linuxhint@montsegur: ~' with a black background and green text. The text shows the command 'root@montsegur:/# sudo ufw enable' being executed, followed by the output 'Firewall is active and enabled on system startup', and then the prompt 'root@montsegur:/#' with a green cursor.

```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~  
root@montsegur:/# sudo ufw enable  
Firewall is active and enabled on system startup  
root@montsegur:/#
```

Then apply a default restrictive policy by running:

```
# sudo ufw default deny incoming
```

A terminal window titled 'linuxhint@montsegur: ~' with a black background and green text. The text shows the command 'root@montsegur:/# sudo ufw default deny incoming' being executed, followed by the output 'Default incoming policy changed to 'deny' (be sure to update your rules accordingly)', and then the prompt 'root@montsegur:/#' with a green cursor.

```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~  
root@montsegur:/# sudo ufw default deny incoming  
Default incoming policy changed to 'deny'  
(be sure to update your rules accordingly)  
root@montsegur:/#
```

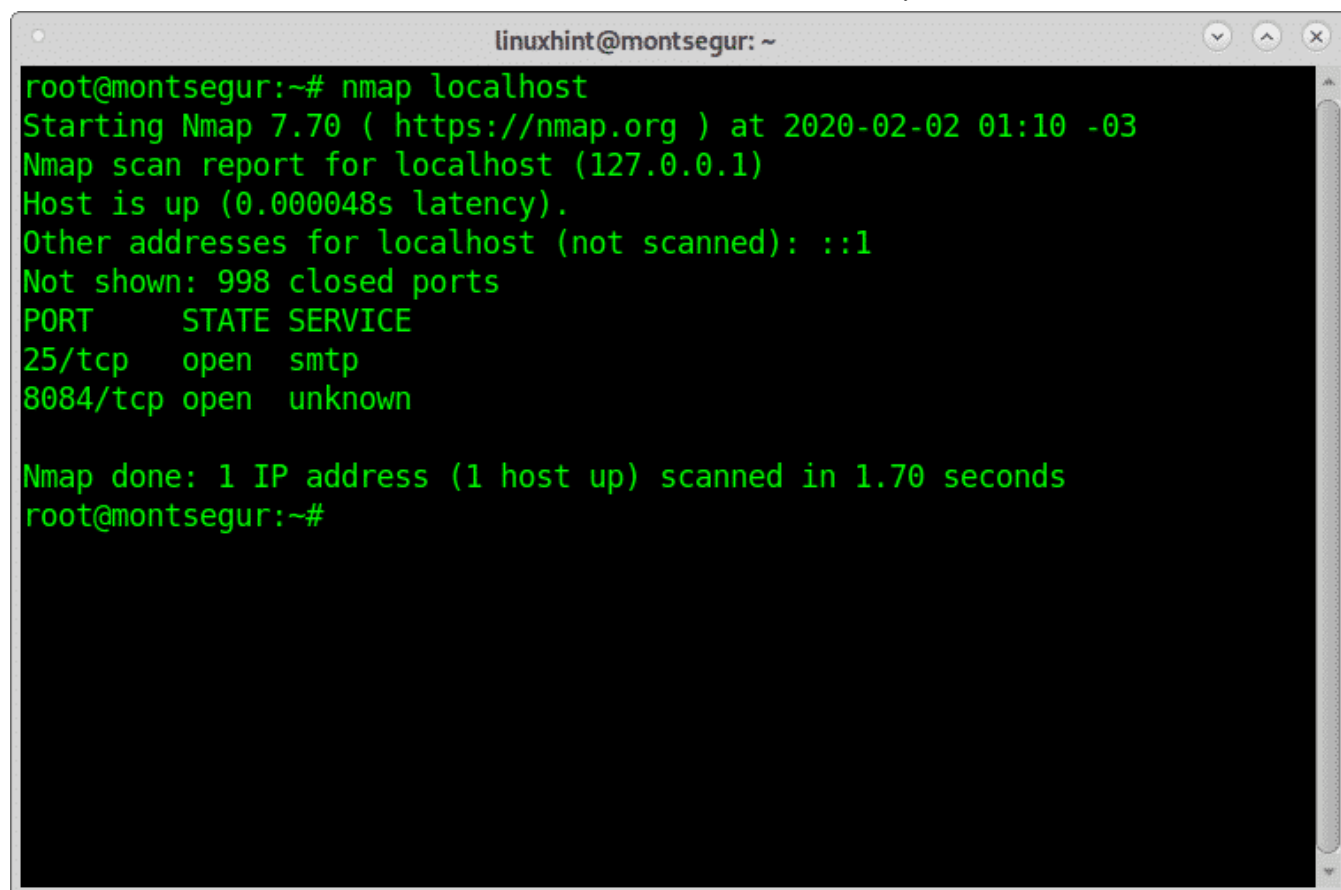
You will need to manually open the ports you want to use by running:

```
# ufw allow <port>
```

### **Auditing yourself with nmap:**

Nmap is, if not the best, one of the best security scanners in the market. It is the main tool used by sysadmins to audit their network security. If you are in a DMZ you can scan your external IP, you can also scan your router or your local host.

A very simple scan against your localhost would be:

A terminal window titled 'linuxhint@montsegur: ~' with a black background and green text. It shows the output of the 'nmap localhost' command. The output indicates that the host is up, with a latency of 0.000048s. It lists two open ports: 25/tcp (smtp) and 8084/tcp (unknown). The scan was completed in 1.70 seconds.

```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~  
root@montsegur:~# nmap localhost  
Starting Nmap 7.70 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-02-02 01:10 -03  
Nmap scan report for localhost (127.0.0.1)  
Host is up (0.000048s latency).  
Other addresses for localhost (not scanned): ::1  
Not shown: 998 closed ports  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
25/tcp    open  smtp  
8084/tcp  open  unknown  
  
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 1.70 seconds  
root@montsegur:~#
```

As you see the output shows my port 25 and port 8084 are open.

Nmap has a lot of possibilities, including OS, Version detection, vulnerability scans, etc. At LinuxHint we have published a lot of tutorials focused on Nmap and its different techniques. You can find them [here](#).

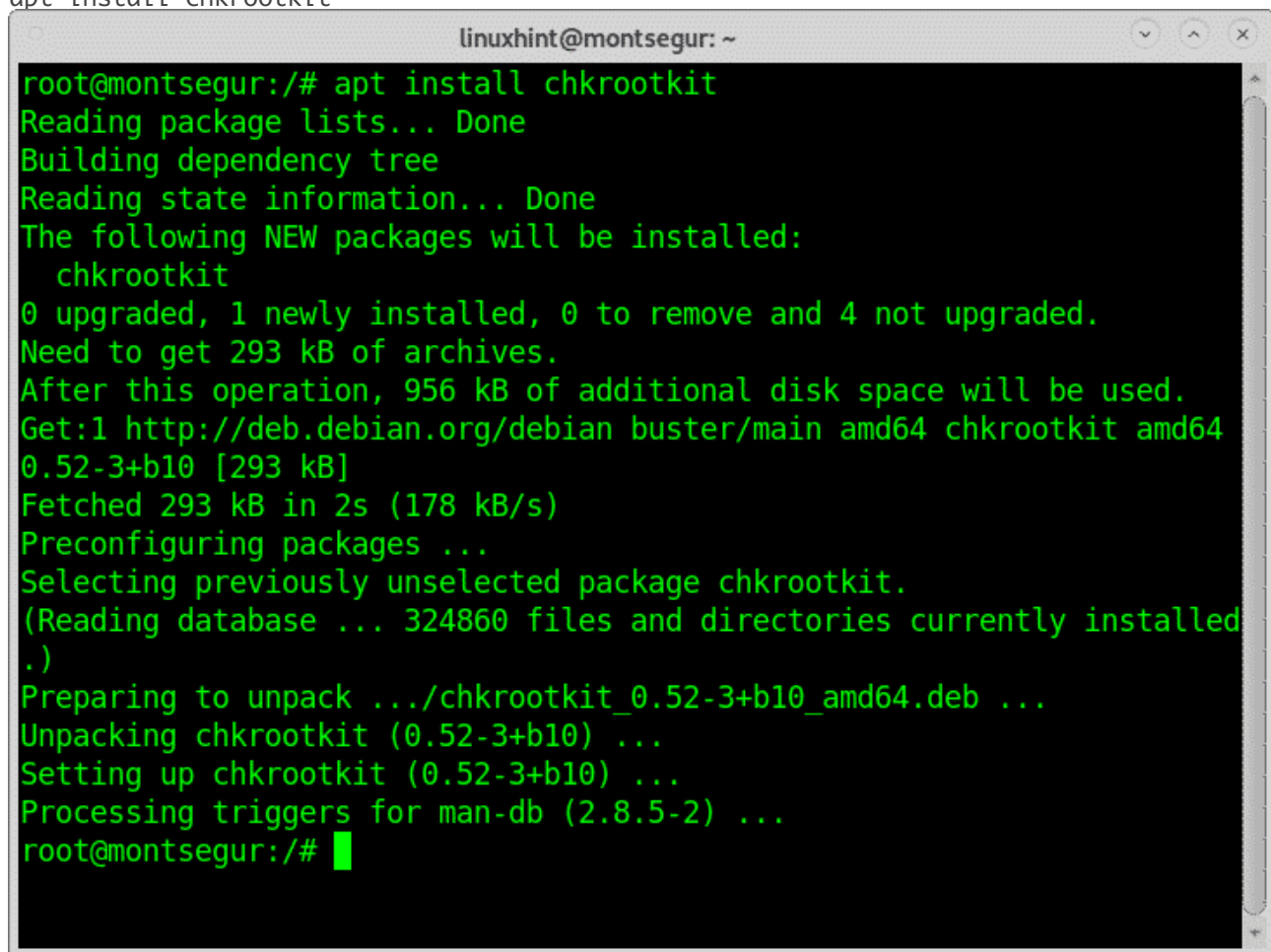
### **The command chkrootkit to check your system for chrootkit infections:**

Rootkits are probably the most dangerous threat to computers. The command chkrootkit

(check rootkit) can help you to detect known rootkits.

To install chkrootkit run:

```
# apt install chkrootkit
```

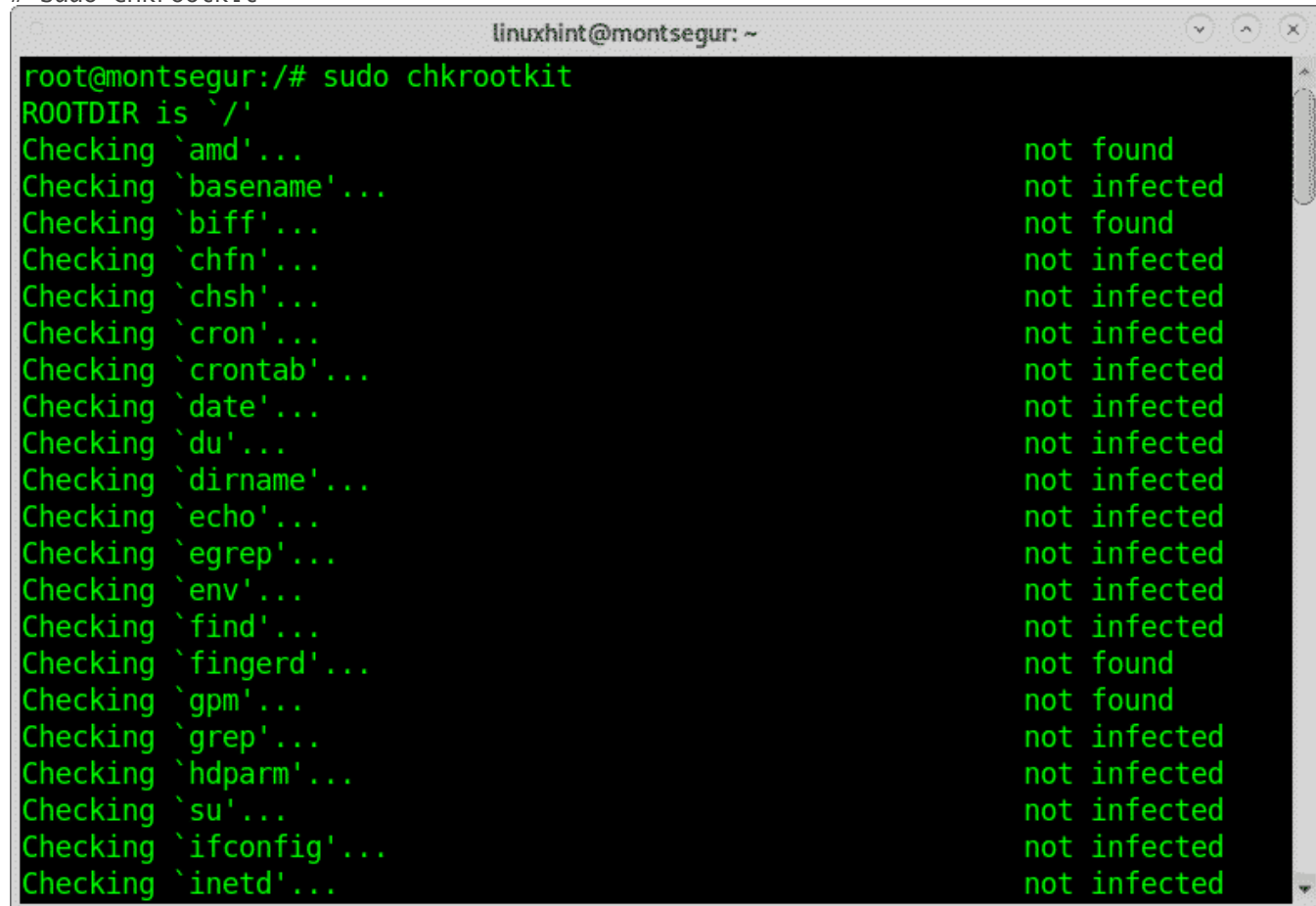
A terminal window titled 'linuxhint@montsegur: ~' with a dark background and green text. It shows the command 'apt install chkrootkit' being executed as root. The output includes package list reading, dependency tree building, and the installation of chkrootkit version 0.52-3+b10. It also shows disk space requirements and the unpacking process.

```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~
root@montsegur:/# apt install chkrootkit
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  chkrootkit
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 4 not upgraded.
Need to get 293 kB of archives.
After this operation, 956 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://deb.debian.org/debian buster/main amd64 chkrootkit amd64
0.52-3+b10 [293 kB]
Fetched 293 kB in 2s (178 kB/s)
Preconfiguring packages ...
Selecting previously unselected package chkrootkit.
(Reading database ... 324860 files and directories currently installed
.)
Preparing to unpack .../chkrootkit_0.52-3+b10_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking chkrootkit (0.52-3+b10) ...
Setting up chkrootkit (0.52-3+b10) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.8.5-2) ...
root@montsegur:/#
```



Then run:

```
# sudo chkrootkit
```



```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~  
root@montsegur:/# sudo chkrootkit  
ROOTDIR is '/'  
Checking `amd'... not found  
Checking `basename'... not infected  
Checking `biff'... not found  
Checking `chfn'... not infected  
Checking `chsh'... not infected  
Checking `cron'... not infected  
Checking `crontab'... not infected  
Checking `date'... not infected  
Checking `du'... not infected  
Checking `dirname'... not infected  
Checking `echo'... not infected  
Checking `egrep'... not infected  
Checking `env'... not infected  
Checking `find'... not infected  
Checking `fingerd'... not found  
Checking `gpm'... not found  
Checking `grep'... not infected  
Checking `hdparm'... not infected  
Checking `su'... not infected  
Checking `ifconfig'... not infected  
Checking `inetd'... not infected
```

Using the command **top** to check processes taking most of your resources:

To get a fast view on running resources you can use the command **top**, on the terminal run:

```
# top
```

```

linuxhint@montsegur: ~
top - 19:15:02 up 1 day, 22:16, 1 user, load average: 0.83, 1.23, 1.14
Tasks: 201 total, 1 running, 200 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 15.2 us, 4.7 sy, 0.0 ni, 78.8 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0 hi, 1.3 si, 0.0 st
MiB Mem : 7877.9 total, 577.9 free, 3435.6 used, 3864.4 buff/cache
MiB Swap: 3808.0 total, 3010.4 free, 797.6 used. 3872.2 avail Mem

  PID USER      PR  NI   VIRT   RES   SHR  S  %CPU  %MEM    TIME+  COMMAND
 6378 linuxhi+  20   0 3326960 545368 127952 S   20.9   6.8   22:00.58 Web Content
   985 root      20   0 623732 168552 84208 S   18.2   2.1  109:31.47 Xorg
14156 linuxhi+  20   0 775020 40364 32068 S   12.3   0.5    0:00.37 screenshot
  3264 linuxhi+  20   0 2178980 277528 31320 S    7.9   3.4    3:56.08 gimp-2.10
  1660 linuxhi+  20   0 769344 27080 16876 S    5.3   0.3    2:54.79 wnck-applet
28326 linuxhi+  20   0 4127816 500076 172280 S    5.0   6.2   76:55.08 firefox-esr
  1620 linuxhi+  20   0 694240 26744 18408 S    4.0   0.3   27:09.50 marco
  8990 linuxhi+  20   0 3153988 446128 136992 S    2.3   5.5   14:05.99 Web Content
22114 linuxhi+  20   0 1073792 44860 28756 S    1.3   0.6    1:29.77 mate-terminal
  1551 linuxhi+  20   0 313484 10808 4992 S    1.0   0.1    9:46.75 ibus-daemon
  1641 linuxhi+  20   0 834240 30192 15112 S    1.0   0.4    0:41.05 mate-panel
   874 root      20   0 238760 5940 5068 S    0.7   0.1    1:51.80 accounts-daemon
14086 linuxhi+  20   0 3029144 366640 101272 S    0.7   4.5    0:45.73 Web Content
    10 root      20   0      0      0      0 I    0.3   0.0    1:27.23 rcu_sched
   892 root      20   0 19576 3612 2728 S    0.3   0.0    0:06.14 systemd-logind
  1254 root      20   0 1061064 4916 3492 S    0.3   0.1    2:47.36 teamviewerd

```

The command **iftop** to monitor your network traffic:

Another great tool to monitor your traffic is iftop,

```
# sudo iftop <interface>
```

In my case:

```
# sudo iftop wlp3s0
```

```

linuxhint@montsegur: ~
┌──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┐
┌──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┬──────────┴──────────┐
195Kb      391Kb      586Kb      781Kb      977Kb
montsegur => 68.67.160.24      24.8Kb  32.2Kb  23.0Kb
           <=              54.9Kb  26.4Kb  18.8Kb
montsegur => 23.202.224.145  0b      11.2Kb  8.02Kb
           <=              0b      6.01Kb  4.29Kb
montsegur => 74.119.119.139  4.57Kb  3.62Kb  2.59Kb
           <=              0b      11.3Kb  8.04Kb
montsegur => 672.bm-nginx-loadbalancer.mgmt 0b      9.15Kb  6.63Kb
           <=              0b      4.43Kb  4.34Kb
montsegur => 54.164.141.28   1.04Kb  3.20Kb  2.29Kb
           <=              4.70Kb  10.2Kb  7.27Kb
montsegur => 104.193.83.156  7.59Kb  3.42Kb  2.44Kb
           <=              208b    9.64Kb  6.88Kb
montsegur => 192.16.58.8     10.6Kb  6.52Kb  5.25Kb
           <=              12.5Kb  6.49Kb  5.31Kb
montsegur => 35.190.90.30    1.93Kb  3.46Kb  2.47Kb
           <=              2.03Kb  8.02Kb  5.73Kb

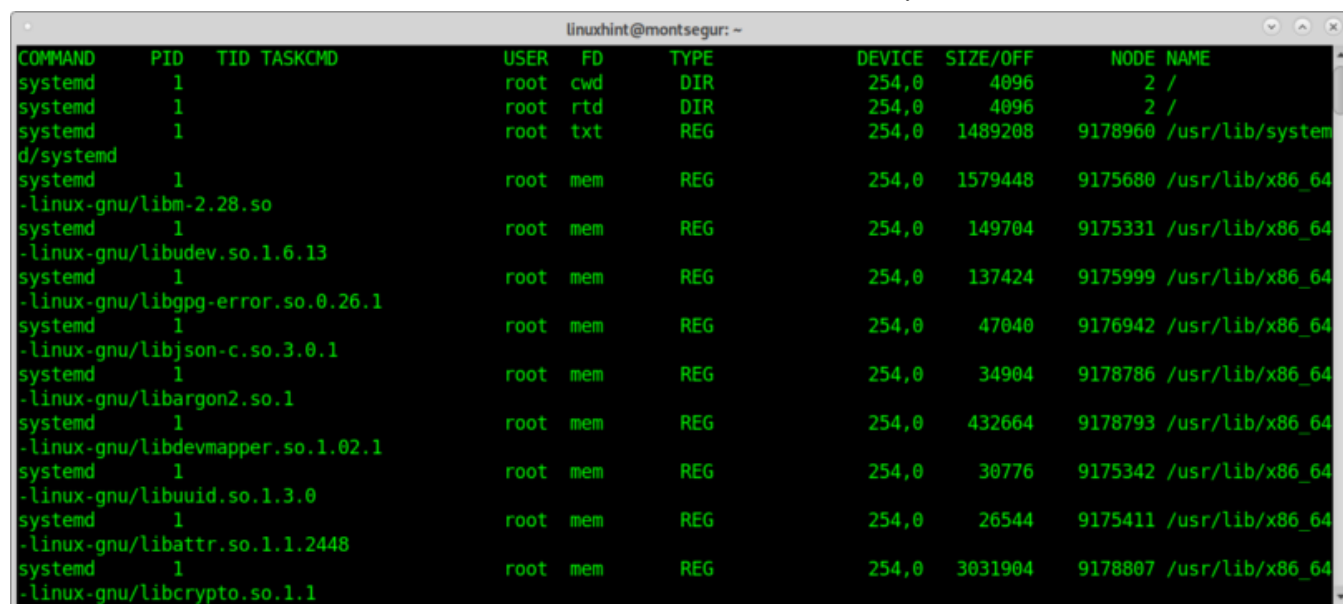
TX: [redacted] cum: 179KB peak: 195Kb rates: 102Kb 121Kb 102Kb
RX: [redacted] 243KB      286Kb      118Kb 163Kb 139Kb
TOTAL: 423KB      481Kb      221Kb 284Kb 241Kb

```

The command `lsof` (list open file) to check for files <=> processes association:

Upon being suspicious something is wrong, the command **`lsof`** can list you the open processes and to which programs are they associated, on the console run:

```
# lsof
```

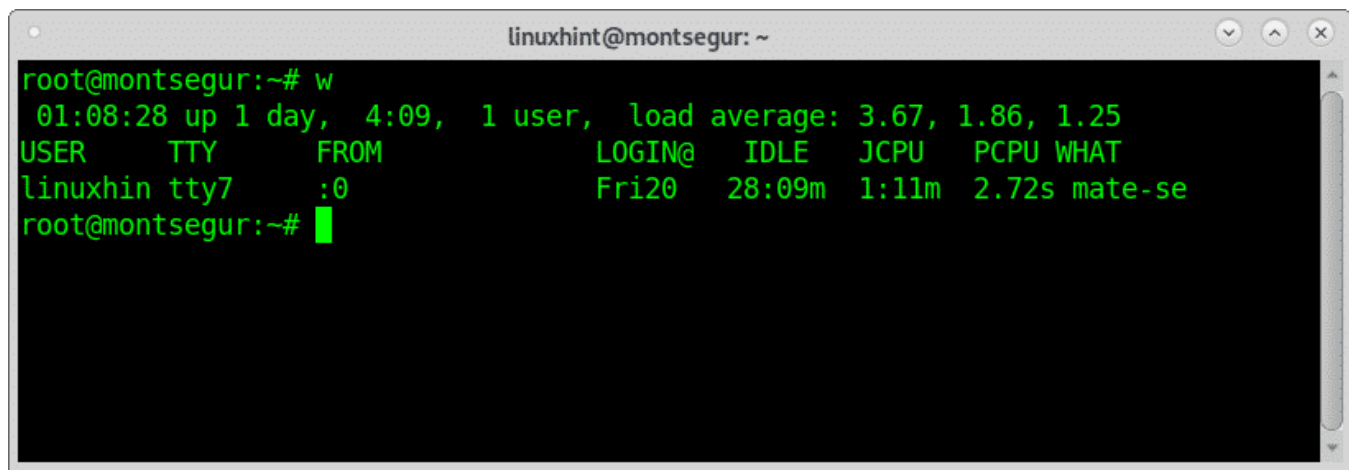


COMMAND	PID	TID	TASKCMD	USER	FD	TYPE	DEVICE	SIZE/OFF	NODE	NAME
systemd	1			root	cwd	DIR	254,0	4096	2	/
systemd	1			root	rtd	DIR	254,0	4096	2	/
systemd	1			root	txt	REG	254,0	1489208	9178960	/usr/lib/systemd
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	1579448	9175680	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libm-2.28.so				root	mem	REG	254,0	149704	9175331	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	137424	9175999	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libudev.so.1.6.13				root	mem	REG	254,0	47040	9176942	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	47040	9176942	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libgpg-error.so.0.26.1				root	mem	REG	254,0	47040	9176942	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	47040	9176942	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libjison-c.so.3.0.1				root	mem	REG	254,0	34904	9178786	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	34904	9178786	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libargon2.so.1				root	mem	REG	254,0	432664	9178793	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	432664	9178793	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libdevmapper.so.1.02.1				root	mem	REG	254,0	30776	9175342	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	30776	9175342	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libuuid.so.1.3.0				root	mem	REG	254,0	26544	9175411	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	26544	9175411	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libattr.so.1.1.2448				root	mem	REG	254,0	3031904	9178807	/usr/lib/x86_64
systemd	1			root	mem	REG	254,0	3031904	9178807	/usr/lib/x86_64
-linux-gnu/libcrypto.so.1.1				root	mem	REG	254,0	3031904	9178807	/usr/lib/x86_64

The `who` and `w` to know who is logged into your device:

Additionally, to know how to defend your system it is mandatory to know how to react before you are suspicious your system has been hacked. One of the first commands to run before such situation are `w` or `who` which will show what users are logged into your system and through what terminal. Let's begin with the command `w`:

```
# w
```



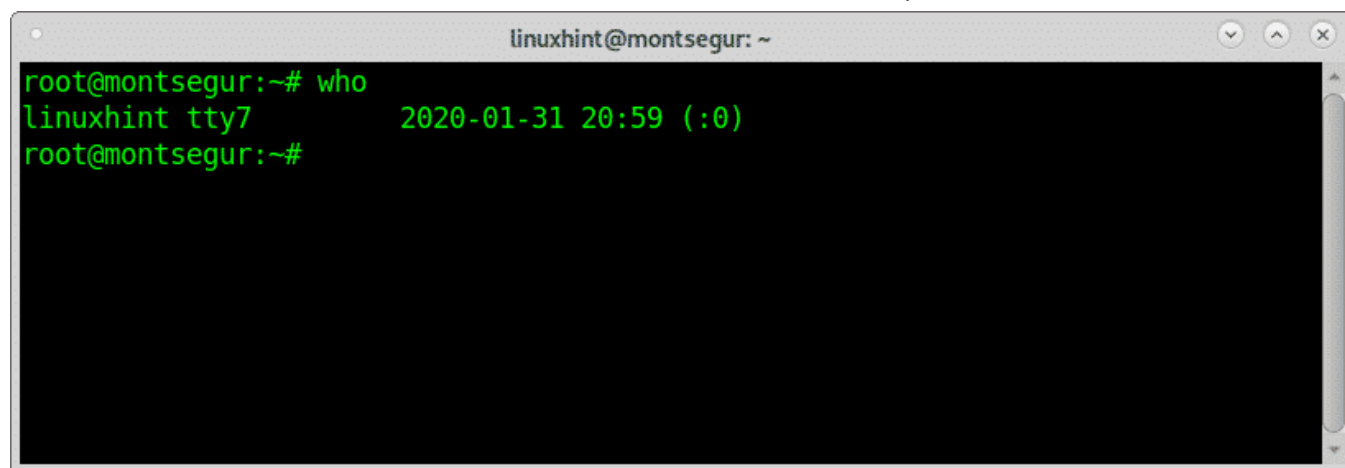
```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~  
root@montsegur:~# w  
 01:08:28 up 1 day,  4:09,  1 user,  load average: 3.67, 1.86, 1.25  
USER      TTY      FROM            LOGIN@   IDLE   JCPU   PCPU WHAT  
linuxhin  tty7      :0              Fri20    28:09m 1:11m  2.72s mate-se  
root@montsegur:~#
```

**Note:** commands “w” and “who” may not show users logged from pseudo terminals like Xfce terminal or MATE terminal.

The column called **USER** displays the **username**, the screenshot above shows the only user logged is linuxhint, the column **TTY** shows the terminal (tty7), the third column **FROM** displays the user address, in this scenario there are not remote users logged in but if they were logged in you could see IP addresses there. The **LOGIN@** column specifies the time in which the user logged in, the column **JCPU** summarizes the minutes of process executed in the terminal or TTY. the **PCPU** displays the CPU used by the process listed in the last column **WHAT**.

While **w** equals to executing **uptime**, **who** and **ps -a** together another alternative, despite with less information is the command “**who**”:

```
# who
```

A terminal window titled 'linuxhint@montsegur: ~' with standard window controls. The terminal shows a root shell prompt 'root@montsegur:~#'. The user enters the command 'who'. The output is 'linuxhint tty7 2020-01-31 20:59 (:0)'. The prompt returns to 'root@montsegur:~#'.

```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~
root@montsegur:~# who
linuxhint tty7      2020-01-31 20:59 (:0)
root@montsegur:~#
```

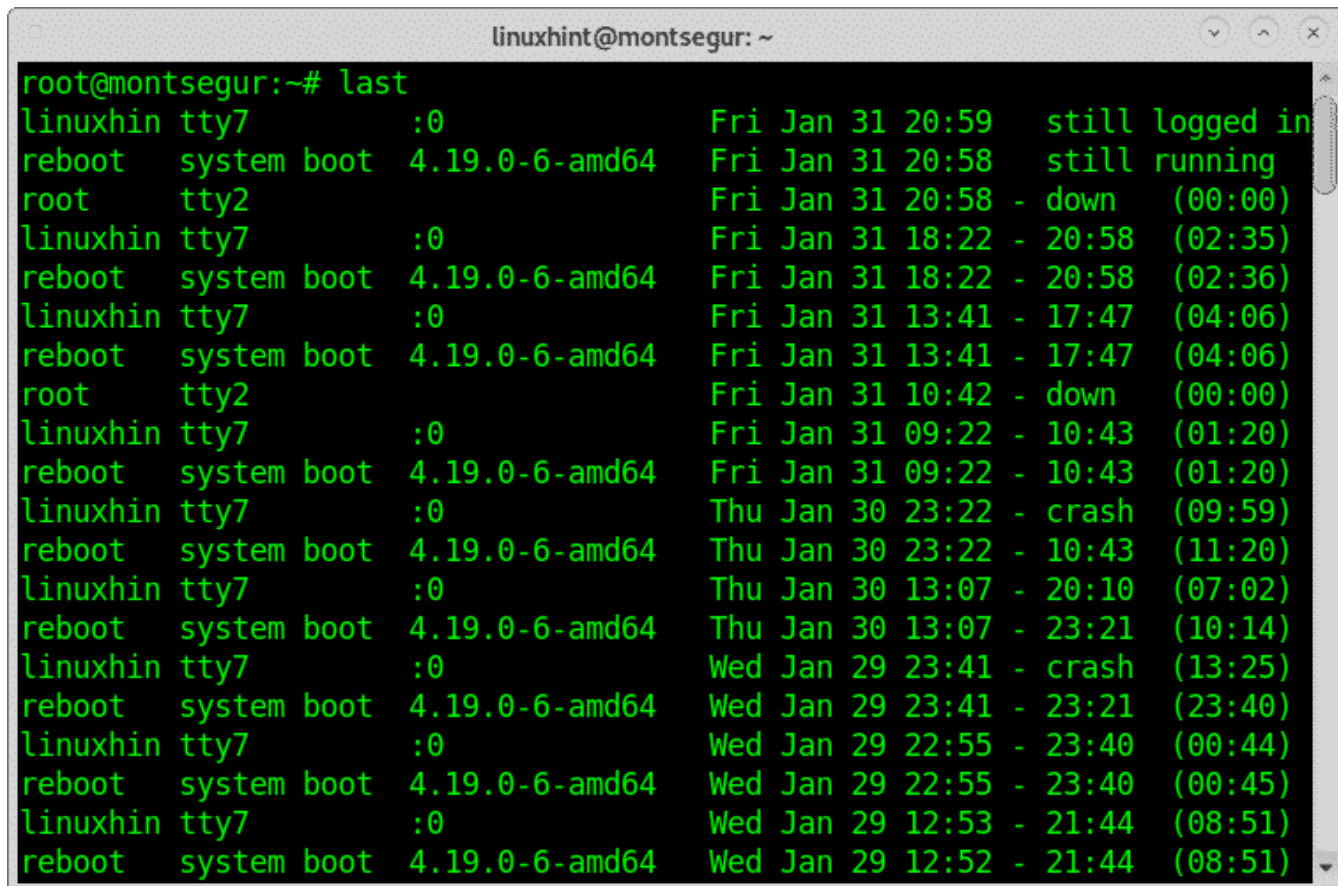
The command **last** to check the login activity:

Other way to supervise users' activity is through the command "last" which allows to read the file **wtmp** which contains information on login access, login source, login time, with features to improve specific login events, to try it run:

Checking the login activity with the command **last**:

The command last reads the file **wtmp** to find information on login activity, you can print it by running:

```
# last
```



```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~# last
linuxhin tty7 :0 Fri Jan 31 20:59 still logged in
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Fri Jan 31 20:58 still running
root tty2 Fri Jan 31 20:58 - down (00:00)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Fri Jan 31 18:22 - 20:58 (02:35)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Fri Jan 31 18:22 - 20:58 (02:36)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Fri Jan 31 13:41 - 17:47 (04:06)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Fri Jan 31 13:41 - 17:47 (04:06)
root tty2 Fri Jan 31 10:42 - down (00:00)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Fri Jan 31 09:22 - 10:43 (01:20)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Fri Jan 31 09:22 - 10:43 (01:20)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Thu Jan 30 23:22 - crash (09:59)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Thu Jan 30 23:22 - 10:43 (11:20)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Thu Jan 30 13:07 - 20:10 (07:02)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Thu Jan 30 13:07 - 23:21 (10:14)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Wed Jan 29 23:41 - crash (13:25)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Wed Jan 29 23:41 - 23:21 (23:40)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Wed Jan 29 22:55 - 23:40 (00:44)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Wed Jan 29 22:55 - 23:40 (00:45)
linuxhin tty7 :0 Wed Jan 29 12:53 - 21:44 (08:51)
reboot system boot 4.19.0-6-amd64 Wed Jan 29 12:52 - 21:44 (08:51)
```

## Checking your SELinux status and enable it if needed:

SELinux is restriction system which improves any Linux security, it comes by default on some Linux distributions, it is widely explained [here on linuxhint](https://linuxhint.com/list_essential_linux_security_commands/).

You can check your SELinux status by running:

```
# sestatus
```

If you get a command not found error, you can install SELinux by running:

```
# apt install selinux-basics selinux-policy-default -y
```

```

linuxhint@montsegur: ~
root@montsegur:~# apt install selinux-basics selinux-policy-default -y
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
  checkpolicy gdal-data libaec0 libarmadillo9 libarpack2 libauparse0 libcharls2 libdap25 libdapclient6v5
  libdapserver7v5 libepsilon1 libfreexl1 libfyba0 libgdal20 libgeos-3.7.1 libgeos-c1v5 libgeotiff2 libhdf4-0-alt
  libhdf5-103 libimagequant0 libkmlbase1 libkmlconvenience1 libkmlcore1 libkmlengine1 libkmlregionator1 libkmlxsd1
  libminizip1 libnetcdf13 libodbc1 libogdi3.2 libproj13 libqhull7 libspatialite7 libsuperlu5 libsz2 liburiparser1
  libxerces-c3.2 m4 odbcinst odbcinst1debian2 policycoreutils policycoreutils-dev policycoreutils-python-utils
  proj-bin proj-data python3-audit python3-decorator python3-gdal python3-ipy python3-networkx python3-numpy
  python3-olefile python3-pil python3-scipy python3-selinux python3-semanage python3-sepolgen python3-sepolicy
  python3-setools python3-yaml selinux-policy-dev selinux-utils semodule-utils setools
Suggested packages:
  geotiff-bin gdal-bin libgeotiff-epsg libhdf4-doc libhdf4-alt-dev hdf4-tools libmyodbc odbc-postgresql tdsodbc
  unixodbc-bin ogdi-bin m4-doc python-networkx-doc gfortran python-numpy-doc python3-pytest python3-numpy-dbg
  python-pil-doc python3-pil-dbg python-scipy-doc logcheck syslog-summary setools-gui
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  checkpolicy gdal-data libaec0 libarmadillo9 libarpack2 libauparse0 libcharls2 libdap25 libdapclient6v5
  libdapserver7v5 libepsilon1 libfreexl1 libfyba0 libgdal20 libgeos-3.7.1 libgeos-c1v5 libgeotiff2 libhdf4-0-alt
  libhdf5-103 libimagequant0 libkmlbase1 libkmlconvenience1 libkmlcore1 libkmlengine1 libkmlregionator1 libkmlxsd1
  libminizip1 libnetcdf13 libodbc1 libogdi3.2 libproj13 libqhull7 libspatialite7 libsuperlu5 libsz2 liburiparser1
  libxerces-c3.2 m4 odbcinst odbcinst1debian2 policycoreutils policycoreutils-dev policycoreutils-python-utils

```

Then run:

```
# selinux-activate
```

Check any user activity using the command **history**:

At any time, you can check any user activity (if you are root) by using the command history logged as the user you want to monitor:

```
# history
```



```
linuxhint@montsegur: ~  
265 sudo shutdown -h now  
266 locate vlc  
267 cp *.lua /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/vlc/plugins/  
268 sudo shutdown -h now  
269 sudo ifconfig  
270 ping google.com  
271 sudo route add default gw 192.168.1.1  
272 nano /etc/resolv.conf  
273 ping google.com  
274 ping 8.8.8.8  
275 ping 192.168.1.1  
276 nano /etc/resolv.conf  
277 nano /etc/resolv.conf  
278 ping 192.168.1.1  
279 ping 8.8.8.8  
280 shutdown -h now  
281 sudo shutdown -h now  
282 sudo ifconfig  
283 sudo route  
284 nano /etc/resolv.conf  
285 ping 8.8.8.8  
286 sudo ifconfig enp2s0 192.168.1.6  
287 ping 8.8.8.8
```

The command history reads the file `bash_history` of each user. Of course, this file can be adulterated, and you as root can read this file directly without invoking the command history. Yet, if you want to monitor activity running is recommended.

I hope you found this article on essential Linux security commands useful. Keep following LinuxHint for more tips and updates on Linux and networking.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



### David Adams

David Adams is a System Admin and writer that is focused on open source technologies, security software, and computer systems.

[View all posts](#)

#### RELATED LINUX HINT POSTS

[Check Listening Ports on Linux](#)

[How to Use Topgrade to Update Packages in Linux](#)

[Linux sysfs File System](#)

[OProfile Tutorial](#)

[Syslog Tutorial](#)

[How to Create a New File Using Linux Touch Command](#)

[Stealth Scans With Nmap](#)

---

Linux Hint LLC, [editor@linuxhint.com](mailto:editor@linuxhint.com)  
1309 S Mary Ave Suite 210, Sunnyvale, CA  
94087

[Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Use](#)

---