

10.4.7 Printer Management Facts

The Line Printer Daemon (LPD) is the older print management daemon for Linux systems. Although CUPS has replaced LPD for the most part, most LPD commands are also supported by the cupsd daemon.


This lesson covers the following topic:

- LPD and CUPS commands

LPD and CUPS Commands

The following table describes commands associated with LPD and CUPS:

Command	Function	Examples
lpr	<p>Sends a job to the print queue (putting print jobs into the queue is called <i>spooling</i>). Common lpr options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• -#n prints n number of copies.• -h prints without using a banner page.• -P printer prints to the named printer.• -r removes the job from the queue after printing.• -w sets the page width of a printable document.	<p>lpr mydoc prints the mydoc file to the default queue.</p> <p>lpr -P printer7 mydoc sends the print job to the printer7's print queue.</p> <p>lpr -#33 mydoc prints 33 copies of the prospectus file.</p>
lpc	<p>Views and manage printers and print queues. Subcommands for lpc include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• status shows the current state of a printer.• clean removes all files from a print queue.• restart attempts to restart a printer daemon for a printer.	<p>lpc status printer7 displays the current state of printer7.</p> <p>lpc clean all empties the print queues for all printers.</p>
lpq	<p>Queries a print queue. This command displays job numbers and users who own the print jobs. Specify a username or a job number to see information about specific print jobs or print jobs for a specific user. Common lpq options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• -a shows the contents of all queues.• -l gives a verbose (long) listing.• -P specifies a specific printer's queue.• -U specifies an alternative username.	<p>lpq -P Printer7 shows all print jobs and print job numbers for printer7.</p> <p>lpq -l tjones 56 shows a long listing of user tjones' job number 56.</p>

lprm	<p>Removes jobs from the print queue. If executed by a regular user, the command removes only that user's jobs; if executed by the superuser, the command removes all print jobs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -P specifies a printer name. • -U specifies an alternative username. • - cancels all print jobs. 	<p>lprm -P printer7 6 removes job number 6 from the print queue of printer7.</p> <p>lprm - removes all jobs from the default printer.</p> <p>lprm removes the current job from the default printer.</p>
lpstat	<p>Views the status of a printer. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -t shows all information for all printers on the network. • -u shows print jobs for a specific user. 	<p>lpstat -t shows all information about all printers.</p> <p>lpstat -t printer7 shows all information for printer7.</p> <p>lpstat -t -u jsmith shows all information for all print jobs for the user jsmith.</p>
lpoptions	<p>Sets the default printer. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -d specifies the default printer for all users. • -l displays current option settings for a printer. <div>  <p>Users can use the ~/lpoptions file to set their own default printer values. Include the single line default printer_name to specify the default printer.</p> </div>	<p>lpoptions -d printer7 specifies printer7 as the default printer for all users.</p> <p>lpoptions -l printer7 displays the current option settings for printer7.</p>

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