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Configure and manage inetd, xinetd, and related services Weight 4

Linux Professional Institute Certification — 102

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Geoff Robertson

Candidates should be able to configure which services are available through inetd, use tcpwrappers to allow or deny services on a host-by-host basis, manually start, stop, and restart internet services, configure basic network services including telnet and ftp. Set a service to run as another user instead of the default in inetd.conf.

```
/etc/inetd.conf
/etc/hosts.allow
/etc/hosts.deny
/etc/services
/etc/xinetd.conf
/etc/xinetd.log
```

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Objective

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Candidates should be able to configure which services are available through inetd, use tcpwrappers to allow or deny services on a host-by-host basis, manually start, stop, and restart internet services, configure basic network services including **telnet** and **ftp**. Set a service to run as another user instead of the default in inetd.conf.

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Key files, terms and utilities

```
/etc/inetd.conf
/etc/hosts.allow
/etc/hosts.deny
/etc/services
/etc/xinetd.conf
/etc/xinetd.log
```

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inetd/xinetd

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The internet "super-server"

A daemon which listens on many ports and fires off the appropriate command to handle incoming requests

Controlled through /etc/inetd.conf

xinetd is an enhanced replacement

Fields are: service_name sock_type proto flags user server_path args

```
# UW-IMAP server
imap2 stream tcp nowait root /usr/sbin/tcpd /usr/sbin/imapd
imap3 stream tcp nowait root /usr/sbin/tcpd /usr/sbin/imapd
imaps stream tcp nowait root /usr/sbin/tcpd /usr/sbin/imapd
# Exim mail server
smtp stream tcp nowait mail /usr/sbin/exim exim -bs
```

Built-in services (often disabled)

echo	stream	tcp	nowait	root	internal
echo	dgram	udp	wait	root	internal
chargen	stream	tcp	nowait	root	internal
chargen	dgram	udp	wait	root	internal
discard	stream	tcp	nowait	root	internal
discard	dgram	udp	wait	root	internal
daytime	stream	tcp	nowait	root	internal
daytime	dgram	udp	wait	root	internal
time	stream	tcp	nowait	root	internal
time	dgram	udp	wait	root	internal

"TCP Wrappers" aka tcpd Manpage is hosts_access(5)

/etc/hosts.allow

sshd: ALL

imapd: 10.0.6.19

ALL: 10.0.128.96/255.255.255.224

/etc/hosts.deny
#ALL: PARANOID

ALL: ALL

Same idea—ludicrous number of options

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