

– General Linux 2 –

# Configure and manage inetd, xinetd, and related services

(Linux Professional Institute Certification)

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# Configure and manage inetd, xinetd, and related services

## Objective

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
```

## inetd/xinetd

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

## **inetd.conf**

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
```

## **inetd.conf – Internal services**

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

## hosts.allow / hosts.deny

“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
```

# xinetd

Same idea—ludicrous number of options

```
service smtp
{
    socket_type      = stream
    protocol         = tcp
    wait             = no
    user             = mail
    server           = /usr/sbin/exim
    server_args      = -bs
}
```