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# Linux Ubuntu 22.4.5 Manual Pages on command 'ifdown.8'

## \$ man ifdown.8

ifup(8)

#### NAME

ifup - bring a network interface up

ifdown - take a network interface down

ifquery - parse interface configuration

# **SYNOPSIS**

ifup [-nv] [--no-act] [--verbose] [-i FILE]--interfaces=FILE] [--state-dir=DIR]

[--allow CLASS] -a|IFACE...

ifup -h|--help

ifup -V|--version

ifdown [-nv] [--no-act] [--verbose] [-i FILE|--interfaces=FILE] [--state-dir=DIR]

[--allow CLASS] -a|IFACE...

ifquery [-nv] [--verbose] [-i FILE|--interfaces=FILE] [--state-dir=DIR] [--allow

CLASS] IFACE...

ifquery -I|--list [-nv] [--verbose] [-i FILE|--interfaces=FILE] [--state-dir=DIR]

[--allow CLASS] [-a|IFACE...]

ifquery --state [--state-dir=DIR] [--allow CLASS] [-a|IFACE...]

# **DESCRIPTION**

The ifup and ifdown commands may be used to configure (or, respectively, deconfig?

ure) network interfaces based on interface definitions in the file /etc/network/in?

terfaces. ifquery command may be used to parse interfaces configuration.

OPTIONS Page 1/5

A summary of options is included below.

#### -a, --all

If given to ifup, affect all interfaces marked auto. Interfaces are brought up in the order in which they are defined in /etc/network/interfaces. Com? bined with --allow, acts on all interfaces of a specified class instead. If given to ifdown, affect all defined interfaces. Interfaces are brought down in the order in which they are currently listed in the state file. Only in? terfaces defined in /etc/network/interfaces will be brought down.

#### --force

Force configuration or deconfiguration of the interface.

#### --ignore-errors

If any of the commands of scripts fails, continue.

#### -h, --help

Show summary of options.

#### --allow=CLASS

Only allow interfaces listed in an allow-CLASS line in /etc/network/inter? faces to be acted upon.

## -i FILE, --interfaces=FILE

Read interface definitions from FILE instead of from /etc/network/inter? faces.

#### --state-dir=DIR

Keep interface state in DIR instead of in /run/network.

# -X PATTERN, --exclude=PATTERN

Exclude interfaces from the list of interfaces to operate on by the PATTERN.

PATTERN uses a usual shell glob syntax. If shell wildcards are not used, it

must match the exact interface name. This option may be specified multiple
times resulting in more than one pattern being excluded.

# -o OPTION=VALUE

Set OPTION to VALUE as though it were in /etc/network/interfaces.

### -n, --no-act

Don't configure any interfaces or run any "up" or "down" commands.

# --no-mappings

Don't run any mappings. See interfaces(5) for more information about the

mapping feature.

# --no-scripts

Don't run any scripts under /etc/network/if-\*.d/

## --no-loopback

Disable special handling of the loopback interface. By default, the loopback interface (lo on Linux) is predefined internally as an auto interface, so it's brought up on ifup -a automatically. In the case the loopback device is redefined by user, the interface is configured just once anyway. If, how? ever, another interface is also defined as loopback, it's configured as usual. Specifying this option disables this behaviour, so the loopback in? terface won't be configured automatically.

## -V, --version

Show copyright and version information.

#### -v, --verbose

Show commands as they are executed.

## -I, --list

For ifquery, list all the interfaces which match the specified class. If no class specified, prints all the interfaces listed as auto.

## --state

For ifquery, dump the state of the interfaces. When no interfaces specified, lists all interfaces brought up together with logical interfaces assigned to them and exits with a status code indicating success. If one or more inter? faces specified, display state of these interfaces only; successful code is returned if all of interfaces given as arguments are up. Otherwise, 0 is re? turned.

# **EXAMPLES**

# ifup -a

Bring up all the interfaces defined with auto in /etc/network/interfaces

# ifup eth0

Bring up interface eth0

# ifup eth0=home

Bring up interface eth0 as logical interface home

Bring down all interfaces that are currently up.

ifquery -I

Print names of all interfaces specified with the auto keyword.

ifquery -I --allow=hotplug

Print names of all interfaces specified with the allow-hotplug keyword.

ifquery eth0

Display the interface options as specified in the ifupdown configuration.

Each key-value pair is printed out on individual line using ": " as separa? tor.

### **NOTES**

ifup, ifdown, and ifquery are actually the same program called by different names.

The program does not configure network interfaces directly; it runs low level util? ities such as ip to do its dirty work.

When invoked, ifdown checks if ifup is still running. In that case, SIGTERM is sent to ifup.

During interface deconfiguration, ifdown ignores errors the same way as if --ig? nore-errors was specified.

## **FILES**

/etc/network/interfaces

definitions of network interfaces See interfaces(5) for more information.

/run/network/ifstate

current state of network interfaces

# CONCURRENCY

Ifupdown uses per-interface locking to ensure that concurrent ifup and ifdown calls to the same interface are run in serial. However, calls to different interfaces will be able to run in parallel.

#### **EXIT STATUS**

For ifup and ifdown, the exit status will be 0 if the given interface(s) have all been (de)configured successfully, 1 if there was any error. The result of these commands is idempotent; running ifup on an interface that is already up will result in an exit status of 0, and similarly running ifdown on an interface that is not up will also result in an exit status of 0.

ifquery will normally return with exit status 0 if an interface with a matching

iface stanza, 1 if there is no matching stanza. ifquery --state will also return with exit status 1 if the given interface was known but was not up.

#### KNOWN BUGS/LIMITATIONS

The program keeps records of whether network interfaces are up or down. Under ex? ceptional circumstances these records can become inconsistent with the real states of the interfaces. For example, an interface that was brought up using ifup and later deconfigured using ifconfig will still be recorded as up. To fix this you can use the --force option to force ifup or ifdown to run configuration or decon? figuration commands despite what it considers the current state of the interface to be.

The file /run/network/ifstate must be writable for ifup or ifdown to work properly.

If that location is not writable (for example, because the root filesystem is mounted read-only for system recovery) then /run/network/ifstate should be made a symbolic link to a writable location. If that is not possible then you can use the --force option to run configuration or deconfiguration commands without updating the file.

Note that the program does not run automatically: ifup alone does not bring up in? terfaces that appear as a result of hardware being installed and ifdown alone does not bring down interfaces that disappear as a result of hardware being removed. To automate the configuration of network interfaces you need to install other packages such as udev(7) or ifplugd(8).

# **AUTHORS**

The ifupdown suite was created by Anthony Towns <aj@azure.humbug.org.au>, and is currently maintained by Guus Sliepen <guus@debian.org>.

Many others have helped develop ifupdown over time, see /usr/share/doc/ifup? down/changelog.Debian.gz for a full history.

#### SEE ALSO

interfaces(5), ip(8), ifconfig(8).

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