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## ***Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'lastlog.8' command***

***\$ man lastlog.8***

LASTLOG(8)            System Management Commands            LASTLOG(8)

### NAME

lastlog - reports the most recent login of all users or of a given user

### SYNOPSIS

lastlog [options]

### DESCRIPTION

lastlog formats and prints the contents of the last login log /var/log/lastlog file. The login-name, port, and last login time will be printed. The default (no flags) causes lastlog entries to be printed, sorted by their order in /etc/passwd.

### OPTIONS

The options which apply to the lastlog command are:

-b, --before DAYS

Print only lastlog records older than DAYS.

-C, --clear

Clear lastlog record of a user. This option can be used only together with -u (--user)).

-h, --help

Display help message and exit.

-R, --root CHROOT\_DIR

Apply changes in the CHROOT\_DIR directory and use the configuration files from the CHROOT\_DIR directory.

-S, --set

Set lastlog record of a user to the current time. This option can be used only together with -u (--user)).

-t, --time DAYS

Print the lastlog records more recent than DAYS.

-u, --user LOGIN|RANGE

Print the lastlog record of the specified user(s).

The users can be specified by a login name, a numerical user ID, or a RANGE of users. This RANGE of users can be specified with a min and max values (UID\_MIN-UID\_MAX), a max value (-UID\_MAX), or a min value (UID\_MIN-).

If the user has never logged in the message **\*\* Never logged in\*\*** will be displayed instead of the port and time.

Only the entries for the current users of the system will be displayed.

Other entries may exist for users that were deleted previously.

## NOTE

The lastlog file is a database which contains info on the last login of each user. You should not rotate it. It is a sparse file, so its size on the disk is usually much smaller than the one shown by "ls -l" (which can indicate a really big file if you have in passwd users with a high UID). You can display its real size with "ls -s".

## CONFIGURATION

The following configuration variables in /etc/login.defs change the behavior of this tool:

LASTLOG\_UID\_MAX (number)

Highest user ID number for which the lastlog entries should be updated. As higher user IDs are usually tracked by remote user identity and authentication services there is no need to create a huge sparse lastlog file for them.

No LASTLOG\_UID\_MAX option present in the configuration means that there is no user ID limit for writing lastlog entries.

## FILES

/var/log/lastlog

Database times of previous user logins.

## CAVEATS

Large gaps in UID numbers will cause the lastlog program to run longer with no output to the screen (i.e. if in lastlog database there is no entries for users with UID between 170 and 800 lastlog will appear to hang as it processes entries with UIDs 171-799).

Having high UIDs can create problems when handling the <term> /var/log/lastlog</term> with external tools. Although the actual file is sparse and does not use too much space, certain applications are not designed to identify sparse files by default and may require a specific option to handle them.

shadow-utils 4.9

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