

NAME

`last`, `lastb` - show listing of last logged in users

SYNOPSIS

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last [-R] [-num] [-n num] [-adFiowx] [-f file] [-t YYYYMMDDHHMMSS] [name...] [tty...]  
lastb [-R] [-num] [-n num] [-f file] [-adFiowx] [name...] [tty...]
```

DESCRIPTION

Last searches back through the file `/var/log/wtmp` (or the file designated by the `-f` flag) and displays a list of all users logged in (and out) since that file was created. Names of users and tty's can be given, in which case **last** will show only those entries matching the arguments. Names of ttys can be abbreviated, thus **last 0** is the same as **last tty0**.

When **last** catches a SIGINT signal (generated by the interrupt key, usually control-C) or a SIGQUIT signal (generated by the quit key, usually control-), **last** will show how far it has searched through the file; in the case of the SIGINT signal **last** will then terminate.

The pseudo user **reboot** logs in each time the system is rebooted. Thus **last reboot** will show a log of all reboots since the log file was created.

Lastb is the same as **last**, except that by default it shows a log of the file `/var/log/btmp`, which contains all the bad login attempts.

OPTIONS

- `-f file` Tells **last** to use a specific file instead of `/var/log/wtmp`.
- `-num` This is a count telling **last** how many lines to show.
- `-n num`
The same.
- `-t YYYYMMDDHHMMSS`
Display the state of logins as of the specified time. This is useful, e.g., to determine easily who was logged in at a particular time -- specify that time with `-t` and look for still logged in.
- `-R` Suppresses the display of the hostname field.
- `-a` Display the hostname in the last column. Useful in combination with the next flag.
- `-d` For non-local logins, Linux stores not only the host name of the remote host but its IP number as well. This option translates the IP number back into a hostname.
- `-F` Print full login and logout times and dates.
- `-i` This option is like `-d` in that it displays the IP number of the remote host, but it displays the IP number in numbers-and-dots notation.
- `-o` Read an old-type wtmp file (written by linux-libc5 applications).
- `-w` Display full user and domain names in the output.
- `-x` Display the system shutdown entries and run level changes.

NOTES

The files `wtmp` and `btmp` might not be found. The system only logs information in these files if they are present. This is a local configuration issue. If you want the files to be used, they can be created with a simple **touch(1)** command (for example, `touch /var/log/wtmp`).

FILES

`/var/log/wtmp`
`/var/log/btmp`

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SEE ALSO

[shutdown\(8\)](#), [login\(1\)](#), [init\(8\)](#)