

How to check the time of shutdown and reboot in Linux

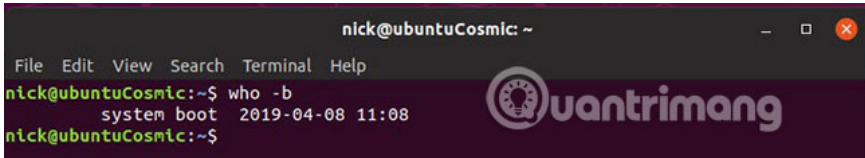
There are many reasons why you might want to find out when your Linux computer is off, reboot or how long it will run. In most cases, this information is invaluable in debugging a problem.

There are many reasons why you might want to find out when your Linux computer is off, reboot or how long it will run. In most cases, this information is invaluable in debugging a problem. Fortunately, Linux automatically 'meticulously' records system events on most distributions. Additionally, accessing information recorded from the command line is also very easy.

Debug by checking the shutdown time and restarting in Linux

1. Last boot
2. Restart
3. The latest reboot
4. Shutdown
5. Last shutdown
6. Operation time

Last boot



```
nick@ubuntuCosmic: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$ who -b  
system boot 2019-04-08 11:08  
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$
```

First, if you want to check the boot computer for the last time, you can use the **who** command with the **-b** flag to get the exact date and time in the terminal. You do not need root privileges when checking this information.

```
who -b
```

Restart

```
nick@ubuntuCosmic: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Fri Mar 29 11:35 - 12:19 (00:43)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Wed Mar 27 14:59 - 11:37 (20:38)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 19:36 - 19:37 (00:00)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 11:08 - 13:41 (02:32)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 11:08 - 11:08 (00:00)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 09:10 - 11:08 (01:57)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Thu Mar 21 14:37 - 15:36 (00:59)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Fri Mar 15 22:15 - 00:00 (01:45)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Wed Mar 13 12:21 - 15:38 (1+03:16)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Wed Mar 13 11:25 - 11:41 (00:15)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-16-generl Thu Mar 7 13:59 - 11:40 (1+21:41)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Wed Mar 6 11:54 - 00:08 (12:13)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Tue Mar 5 11:06 - 23:13 (12:06)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Mon Mar 4 09:23 - 09:31 (00:08)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Sun Mar 3 13:14 - 13:18 (00:04)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Sun Mar 3 10:43 - 12:32 (01:49)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Fri Mar 1 13:44 - 13:50 (00:06)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Thu Feb 28 16:37 - 17:38 (01:01)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Thu Feb 28 16:33 - 16:36 (00:03)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-15-generl Thu Feb 28 15:09 - 16:33 (01:23)  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-10-generl Thu Feb 28 10:56 - 15:09 (04:13)  
wtmp begins Thu Feb 28 10:56:02 2019  
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$
```

With the **last** command , you can list information each time the system restarts. This information does not include all times when the system has used the reboot command or when rebooting from the desktop. Instead, Linux logs every time the system starts.

```
last -x reboot
```

The latest reboot

```
nick@ubuntuCosmic: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$ last -x reboot | head -1  
reboot system boot 4.18.0-17-generl Mon Apr 8 11:08 still running  
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$
```

If you like a more concise version, only showing the most recent boot time, you can switch the output to **head** and provide parameter **-1**, to request only one line. If you need information about the last 2 starts, use **-2** to export both lines.

```
last -x reboot | head -1
```

Shutdown

```
nick@ubuntuCosmic: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Fri Mar 29 12:19 - 14:18 (01:58)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Thu Mar 28 11:37 - 11:35 (23:57)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 19:37 - 14:59 (19:22)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 13:41 - 19:36 (05:55)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 11:08 - 11:08 (00:00)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Tue Mar 26 11:08 - 11:08 (00:00)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Thu Mar 21 15:36 - 09:10 (4+17:33)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Sat Mar 16 00:00 - 14:37 (5+14:36)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Thu Mar 14 15:38 - 22:15 (1+06:37)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Wed Mar 13 11:41 - 12:21 (00:40)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-16-generl Sat Mar 9 11:40 - 11:25 (3+22:44)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Thu Mar 7 00:08 - 13:59 (13:51)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Tue Mar 5 23:13 - 11:54 (12:41)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Mon Mar 4 09:31 - 11:06 (1+01:35)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Sun Mar 3 13:18 - 09:23 (20:04)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Sun Mar 3 12:32 - 13:14 (00:41)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Fri Mar 1 13:50 - 10:43 (1+20:53)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Thu Feb 28 17:38 - 13:44 (20:05)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Thu Feb 28 16:36 - 16:37 (00:00)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-15-generl Thu Feb 28 16:33 - 16:33 (00:00)
shutdown system down 4.18.0-10-generl Thu Feb 28 15:09 - 15:09 (00:00)

wtmp begins Thu Feb 28 10:56:02 2019
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$
```

The **last** command works similarly to the shutdown times. These are times when the computer is completely turned off. This information provides a time range that includes all times the computer is turned off. You can put them in parallel with the reboots to know the corresponding shutdown.

```
last -x shutdown
```

Last shutdown

```
nick@ubuntuCosmic: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$ last -x shutdown | head -1
shutdown system down 4.18.0-17-generl Sun Apr 7 15:03 - 11:08 (20:05)
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$
```

As with previous reboots, you can switch the output to **head** to get only the information about the last shutdown. Just like before, you can provide different numbers, such as **-3** to get information about the last 3 shutdowns.

```
last -x shutdown | head -1
```

Operation time

```
nick@ubuntuCosmic: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$ uptime -p
up 2 hours, 3 minutes
nick@ubuntuCosmic:~$
```

Finally, when you want to know how long your computer has been running, you can use the **uptime** command to find out this information. Combine **uptime** commands with the **-p** flag to get more readable output. You will receive the duration in days, hours and minutes that the computer has turned on since the last boot.

```
uptime -p
```

Hopefully, with the above commands, you can find some suggestions or even the cause behind the problem related to rebooting and shutdown. If you suspect other programs, you can check specific log files in `'/var/log'`.

Hope you are successful.

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