

Server Fault is a question and answer site for system and network administrators. It's 100% free, no registration required.

Take the 2-minute tour ×

How can I list my open ports on Debian?

What is the command to display a list of open ports on a Debian server?

I tried `netstat -a | egrep 'Proto|LISTEN'` but I would like something more specific that actually lists the port number.

linux networking debian

edited Feb 6 '12 at 18:28



stew

5,916 12 32

asked Feb 6 '12 at 18:01



leonel

184 2 2 8

6 Answers

```
netstat -pln
```

`-l` will list listening ports, `-p` will also display the process, `-n` will show port numbers instead of names. Add `-t` to only show TCP ports.

edited Apr 26 at 20:06



Tim Bezhashvily

105 5

answered Feb 6 '12 at 18:09



Stone

4,731 9 29

- 3 For the `-p` to work properly, you need to run this as root, so `sudo netstat -tpln`, otherwise the process column will not be particularly useful, unless you're the user whose process is listening on a given port. – [cjc](#) Feb 6 '12 at 18:21



Did you find this question interesting? Try our newsletter

Sign up for our newsletter and get our top new questions delivered to your inbox ([see an example](#)).

```
lsof -i -P
```

Check the man page for `lsof` as there is no shortage of options. `-P` lists the port number rather than the name taken from `/etc/services`. Run as root, though, this will provide you with a list of all active network connections and their status (listening, established, etc).

answered Feb 6 '12 at 18:34



Jeff Ferland

15.5k 1 34 62

You can do:

```
netstat -an | egrep 'Proto|LISTEN'
```

or simply:

```
netstat -anl
```

which will give you all listening sockets on the system.

answered Feb 6 '12 at 18:09



Karlson

231 3 6

- 2 This would be the best solution (where "best" is defined as "works on the broadest range of systems" (BSD, Linux, AIX, Solaris, I believe HP-UX)) – [voretac7](#) ♦ Feb 6 '12 at 22:31

What almost everybody wants (TCP and UDP) is `netstat -tunlp`.

I use it every day, maybe every hour. The 'lsof' hack is more portable (works on Solaris too),

but on Debian it's not an essential package, you have to install it.

answered Feb 7 '12 at 23:04



[zerodeux](#)

336 1 3

Yes, and run it via `sudo .` – [Martijn Heemels](#) Feb 7 '12 at 23:09

My friend taught me to remember this command with a flower name `netstat -tulpen` Flag `e` gives additional information. – [Deele](#) Dec 15 '12 at 14:37

I'm a big fan on `netstat -ntlp` and `lsof -i`, both mentioned already.

A new(er) command to me is [ss](#).

The invocation is like:

```
ss -l
```

It's good to have options, in terms of commands and flags.

answered Apr 26 at 20:24



[dmourati](#)

9,879 2 15 49

TechRepulic has a decent article that you can find [here](#). It has some similar commands as you listed above but also a few variations. I would also highly recommend using `nmap` to do a port scan of the computer in question so you can see from an external perspective what ports are open and listening.

answered Feb 6 '12 at 18:07



[Eric](#)

909 6 20

Could you please tell me why this was down voted? As I simply provided a link with a lot of the solutions above which were approved along with a different perspective of doing an external scan as well. Thanks. – [Eric](#) Feb 6 '12 at 19:10

4 I didn't downvote, but on serverfault like most stack-exchange we generally expect you to to put the answer here, and not just a link to somewhere else. Links go away over time, but we want content on SF to still be valuable when the links die. – [Zoredache](#) Feb 6 '12 at 22:55
