Record and Replay Linux Commands

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How to record and replay SSH sessions using the script and scriptreplay commands?

Overview: This article explains how to record and replay SSH sessions using the script and scriptreplay commands on CentOS, RHEL, Ubuntu, and Debian servers. It covers installation, recording terminal sessions, saving timing information, and replaying sessions for auditing and review.

Install **script** and **scriptreplay** using the below command in **CentOS/Ubuntu**.

CentOS/RHEL/Amazon Linux

```
root@centos ~]# yum install util-linux -y
```

Ubuntu/Debian

```
root@ubuntu ~]# apt install bsdutils -y
```

How to use the script command?

Run below command to view the information for the script command.

```
root@linux ~]# script -help
```

1. Run the below commands to **start and stop the recording**. In the below example uptime command and output are saved into the type.log file.

```
root@linux ~]# script -a type.log

root@linux ~]# uptime

  08:36:47 up 6:58, 2 users, load average: 0.00, 0.02, 0.00

root@linux ~]# exit
```

2. Run the below command to **save single command into a file**.

```
root@linux ~]# script -c 'uptime' type.log

Script started, file is type6.log
08:35:26 up 6:57, 2 users, load average: 0.00, 0.02, 0.00
Script done, file is type6.log
```

3. Run the below command to **save the session with the timing file to replay the script on the terminal**.

```
root@linux ~]# script --timing=time.txt type.log

root@linux ~]# uptime
  08:49:00 up 7:10, 2 users, load average: 0.01, 0.05, 0.02

root@linux ~]# exit
```

View the recorded file using the **cat command**.

```
root@linux ~]# cat type.log
```

How to use the scriptreplay command?

Run the below command to view the information for the **scriptreplay** command.

```
root@linux ~]# scriptreplay -help
```

Run below command to **view the recording using timing information**.

> **Note:** Time files and record files are needed to replay the scripts.

Refer below example to **save time file and record file to replay the script using the scriptreplay command**.

```
root@linux ~]# script --timing=time.txt type.log

root@linux ~]# uptime
 08:49:00 up 7:10, 2 users, load average: 0.01, 0.05, 0.02

root@linux ~]# exit
```

Run the **scriptreplay command to reply the recorded session**. scriptreplay command will automatically display all the commands that are run on the terminal and will be played according to the information saved in the time file.

```
root@linux ~]# scriptreplay --timing=time.txt type.log

root@linux ~]# uptime
 08:49:00 up 7:10, 2 users, load average: 0.01, 0.05, 0.02

root@linux ~]# exit

exit

root@linux ~]#
```

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