1.107.3
Print files
Weight 1

Linux Professional Institute Certification — 102

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Outline

Topic 107 Printing [3]
Where we are up to

1.107.2 Manage printers and print queues [1]

1.107.3 **Print files [1]**

1.107.4 Install and configure local and remote printers [1]

Description of Objective
1.107.3 Print files

Candidates should be able to manage print queues and manipulate print jobs. This objective includes adding and removing jobs from configured printer queues and converting text files to postscript for printing.

Key files, terms, and utilities include:
1.107.3 Print files

lpq	Display Print queue
lpr	Job submission
mpage	Print multiple pages per sheet

Resources of interest

Printing-HOWTO
Printing-Usage-HOWTO

lpr — Submit job to Print Queue

- ▶ lpr is used to submit a job to the print queue
- ▶ lpr can be run from the command line
- ▶ lpr assumes text is to be printed by default
- ▶ lpr uses /etc/printcap for printer settings

Usage of lpr is:
lpr [-P⟨*printer*⟩] [-#⟨*num*⟩] ⟨*filename*⟩ ...
Examples: Print /etc/hosts file to spool lp0:
$ **lpr –Plp0 /etc/hosts** ↩
Print two copies of /etc/hosts file to default print spool:
$ **lpr –#2 /etc/hosts** ↩

lpq — See print jobs in queue

- lpq displays the jobs in either the default printer queue, or a specified one

man lpq

```
lpq(1)              Easy Software Products            lpq(1)


NAME
       lpq - show printer queue status

SYNOPSIS
       lpq [ -E ] [ -P dest ] [ -a ] [ -l ] [ +interval ]

DESCRIPTION
       lpq  shows  the  current  print queue status on the
       named printer.  Jobs queued on the default destina-
       tion will be shown if no printer or class is speci-
       fied on the command-line.

       The interval option  allows  you  to  continuously
       report  the  jobs in  the  queue until the queue is
       empty; the list of jobs is show one every  interval
       seconds.

       The  -E option forces encryption when connecting to
       the server.

       The -a option reports jobs on all printers.

       The  -l  option  requests  a  more  verbose  (long)
       reporting format.

SEE ALSO
       cancel(1), lp(1), lpr(1), lprm(1), lpstat(1)
       CUPS    Software    Users   Manual,   http://local-
```

a2ps — Convert ASCII to Postscript

- Most Unix sites use postscript printers
- You can not send an ASCII file directly to a postscript printer
- To convert from ASCII to ps, use a2ps

Usage: a2ps [-o *out-file*] in-file
Example:
```
$ a2ps -o myfile.ps myfile.txt ↩
$ cat myfile.ps > /dev/lp0 ↩
```

mpage — Print multiple pages per page

- ▶ mpage will print multiple pages per physical page
- ▶ Input can be either text or postscript
- ▶ 1, 2, 4 or 8 pages can be printed per page
- ▶ Output can be directed to printer or stdout

Usage:
```
mpage [-1248] [options] input-file ...
```
Example: Print 4 pages per page on A4
```
$ mpage -4 -b A4 bigfile.ps | lpr ↩
```

Topics Covered

[Context](#)

[Objective](#)

[Resources](#)

`lpr`

`lpq`

`a2ps`

`mpage`

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