

Configuring TFTP Server on Linux

To use PXE Network Boot, you need a working DHCP server and TFTP server ([Prerequisites for Using PXE Network Boot](#)).

To install the TFTP server on the Linux distribution that supports [yum](#), such as Fedora and CentOS, run the following command:

```
yum -y install tftp-server
```

Other Linux distributions and Unix variants have their own methods of software installation. For example, on distributions that support aptitude, such as Debian and Ubuntu, a TFTP server can be installed with the command

```
apt-get install tftpd-hpa
```

After the installation, you will need to configure the TFTP server. This server runs from the super-server [xinetd](#) and has a service configuration file in the [/etc/xinetd.d](#) directory. The file in the [/etc/xinetd.d](#) directory is usually installed with a TFTP server. But if the file in [/etc/xinetd.d](#) is missing, you can create the file or record using your favorite text editor. An example of a file (named [/etc/xinetd.d/tftp](#)) is provided below:

```
service tftp
socket_type = dgram
protocol = udp
wait = yes
user = root
server = /usr/sbin/in.tftpd
server_args = -s /tftpboot

disable = no

per_source = 11
cps = 100 2
flags = IPv4
```

```
[root@centos52-mysql /]# cat /etc/xinetd.d/tftp
# default: off
# description: The tftp server serves files using the trivial file transfer \
#   protocol.  The tftp protocol is often used to boot diskless \
#   workstations, download configuration files to network-aware printers, \
#   and to start the installation process for some operating systems.
service tftp
{
    disable = no
    socket_type      = dgram
    protocol         = udp
    wait             = yes
    user             = root
    server           = /usr/sbin/in.tftpd
    server_args      = -s /tftpboot
    disable          = no
    per_source       = 11
    cps              = 100 2
    flags            = IPv4
}
[root@centos52-mysql /]#
```

By default, the TFTP server is disabled and this line looks like `disable = yes`. To enable it, change the line to `disable = no` (highlighted in red). After saving the changes in the file, restart `xinetd` with the following command:

```
/etc/init.d/xinetd restart
```

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service tftp
{
    disable = no
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    server_args      = -s /tftpboot
    disable          = no
    per_source       = 11
    cps              = 100 2
    flags            = IPv4
}
[root@centos52-mysql /]# /etc/init.d/xinetd restart
Stopping xinetd:          [ OK ]
Starting xinetd:         [ OK ]
[root@centos52-mysql /]#
```

To test the TFTP server, you can copy `/bin/ls` (exists in every Linux) to the `/tftpboot` directory. Using a computer with Linux, open shell and execute the following command:

```
tftp -c get ls
```

If the TFTP server works, the command will not return any output and the file `ls` should appear in the current directory.



Note

The TFTP client (`tftp` command) is not included in CentOS and Fedora by default. This can result in "`tftp: command not found`" errors. If you see such an error, install the TFTP client with the command

```
yum install tftp
```

Or, on Ubuntu or Debian,

```
apt-get install tftp-hpa
```