

NAME

faillog – display faillog records or set login failure limits

SYNOPSIS

faillog [*options*]

DESCRIPTION

faillog displays the contents of the failure log database (*/var/log/faillog*). It can also set the failure counters and limits. When **faillog** is run without arguments, it only displays the faillog records of the users who had a login failure.

OPTIONS

The options which apply to the **faillog** command are:

-a, --all

Display (or act on) faillog records for all users having an entry in the faillog database.

The range of users can be restricted with the **-u** option.

In display mode, this is still restricted to existing users but forces the display of the faillog entries even if they are empty.

With the **-l**, **-m**, **-r**, **-t** options, the users' records are changed, even if the user does not exist on the system. This is useful to reset records of users that have been deleted or to set a policy in advance for a range of users.

-h, --help

Display help message and exit.

-l, --lock-secs SEC

Lock account for *SEC* seconds after failed login.

Write access to */var/log/faillog* is required for this option.

-m, --maximum MAX

Set the maximum number of login failures after the account is disabled to *MAX*.

Selecting a *MAX* value of 0 has the effect of not placing a limit on the number of failed logins.

The maximum failure count should always be 0 for *root* to prevent a denial of services attack against the system.

Write access to */var/log/faillog* is required for this option.

-r, --reset

Reset the counters of login failures.

Write access to */var/log/faillog* is required for this option.

-R, --root CHROOT_DIR

Apply changes in the *CHROOT_DIR* directory and use the configuration files from the *CHROOT_DIR* directory.

-t, --time DAYS

Display faillog records more recent than *DAYS*.

-u, --user LOGIN|RANGE

Display faillog record or maintains failure counters and limits (if used with **-l**, **-m** or **-r** options) only for the specified user(s).

The users can be specified by a login name, a numerical user ID, or a *RANGE* of users. This *RANGE* of users can be specified with a min and max values (*UID_MIN-UID_MAX*), a max value (*-UID_MAX*), or a min value (*UID_MIN-*).

When none of the **-l**, **-m**, or **-r** options are used, **faillog** displays the faillog record of the specified user(s).

CAVEATS

faillog only prints out users with no successful login since the last failure. To print out a user who has had a successful login since their last failure, you must explicitly request the user with the **-u** flag, or print out all users with the **-a** flag.

FILES

/var/log/faillog

Failure logging file.

SEE ALSO

[login\(1\)](#), [faillog\(5\)](#).