

Red Hat Certified System Administrator (RHCSA)

A Red Hat Certified System Administrator certification is earned when an IT professional demonstrates the core system-administration skills required in Red Hat Enterprise Linux environments.

A Red Hat Certified System Administrator is able to perform the following tasks:

- Understand and use essential tools for handling files, directories, command-line environments and documentation.
- Operate running systems, including booting into different run levels, identifying processes, starting and stopping virtual machines and controlling services.
- Configure local storage using partitions and logical volumes.
- Create and configure file systems and file system attributes, such as permissions, encryption, access control lists and network file systems.
- Deploy, configure, and maintain systems, including software installation, update and core services.
- Manage users and groups, including use of a centralized directory for authentication.
- Manage security, including basic firewall and SELinux configuration.

Understand and Use Essential Tools

- Access a shell prompt and issue commands with correct syntax
- Use input-output redirection (>, >>, |, 2>, etc.)
- Use grep and regular expressions to analyze text
- Access remote systems using ssh
- Log in and switch users in multiuser targets
- Archive, compress, unpack, and uncompress files using tar, star, gzip, and bzip2
- Create and edit text files
- Create, delete, copy, and move files and directories
- Create hard and soft links
- List, set, and change standard ugo/rwx permissions

- Locate, read, and use system documentation including man, info, and files

Operate running systems

- Boot, reboot, and shut down a system normally
- Boot systems into different targets manually
- Interrupt the boot process in order to gain access to a system
- Identify CPU/memory intensive processes, adjust process priority with renice, and kill processes
- Locate and interpret system log files and journals
- Access a virtual machine's console
- Start and stop virtual machines
- Start, stop, and check the status of network services
- Securely transfer files between systems

Configure local storage

- List, create, delete partitions on MBR and GPT disks
- Create and remove physical volumes, assign physical volumes to volume groups, and create and delete logical volumes
- Configure systems to mount file systems at boot by Universally Unique ID (UUID) or label
- Add new partitions and logical volumes, and swap to a system non-destructively

Create and configure file systems

- Create, mount, unmount, and use vfat, ext4, and xfs file systems
- Mount and unmount CIFS and NFS network file systems
- Extend existing logical volumes
- Create and configure set-GID directories for collaboration
- Create and manage Access Control Lists (ACLs)
- Diagnose and correct file permission problems

Deploy, configure, and maintain systems

- Configure networking and hostname resolution statically or dynamically
- Schedule tasks using at and cron
- Start and stop services and configure services to start automatically at boot
- Configure systems to boot into a specific target automatically

- Install Red Hat Enterprise Linux automatically using Kickstart
- Configure a physical machine to host virtual guests
- Install Red Hat Enterprise Linux systems as virtual guests
- Configure systems to launch virtual machines at boot
- Configure network services to start automatically at boot
- Configure a system to use time services
- Install and update software packages from Red Hat Network, a remote repository, or from the local file system
- Update the kernel package appropriately to ensure a bootable system
- Modify the system bootloader

Manage users and groups

- Create, delete, and modify local user accounts
- Change passwords and adjust password aging for local user accounts
- Create, delete, and modify local groups and group memberships
- Configure a system to use an existing authentication service for user and group information

Manage security

- Configure firewall settings using firewall-config, firewall-cmd, or iptables
- Configure key-based authentication for SSH
- Set enforcing and permissive modes for SELinux
- List and identify SELinux file and process context
- Restore default file contexts
- Use boolean settings to modify system SELinux settings
- Diagnose and address routine SELinux policy violations

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