



Linux Under the Hood, 2nd Edition

Author(s): **Sander van Vugt**, Release: **February 2024**,
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Linux Under the Hood offers an extensive exploration of how Linux functions, allowing you to fully harness its capabilities. Familiarizing yourself with Linux internals will allow you to surpass mere commands and gain valuable insights to optimize your use of Linux. The first module dives into a deeper understanding of Linux architecture. The following module will focus on storage and filesystems. Next, we will cover core components, including memory, processes, and the intricacies of command execution. Finally, we will explore Linux's evolution into a container-based platform.

Module 1: Linux Architecture

Lesson 1: Core Linux Elements

- 1.1 System Space and User Space, and How They are Related
- 1.2 The Role of the Kernel
- 1.3 Why the Root User is Unrestricted
- 1.4 Drivers, Kernel Modules, and Device Files
- 1.5 Glibc
- 1.6 The Shell
- 1.7 File Descriptors

Lesson 2: The Linux Boot Procedure

- 2.1 The Boot Procedure from Firmware to Shell
- 2.2 System Firmware: UEFI and BIOS
- 2.3 Managing UEFI Booting
- 2.4 Bootloaders
- 2.5 Where GRUB is Stored
- 2.6 Configuring GRUB2
- 2.7 Understanding and Modifying Initramfs
- 2.8 Service Managers
- 2.9 Booting Cloud Linux Instances
- 2.10 Accessing an Early Boot Shell

Lesson 3: Looking Closer at the Kernel

- 3.1 Why Compiling Kernels isn't Necessary Anymore
- 3.2 Kernel Generic Interfaces

- 3.3 Managing and Tuning Kernel Modules
- 3.4 The /proc Pseudo Filesystem
- 3.5 Using /proc to get Detailed System Information
- 3.6 Reading Process Information in /proc
- 3.7 Tuning the Kernel through /proc/sys
- 3.8 Testing Critical Features with sysrq
- 3.9 Using Watchdogs
- 3.10 eBPF

Lesson 4: Systemd Taking Over

- 4.1 Manually Starting Systemd
- 4.2 Systemd Unit Files
- 4.3 Tweaking Unit Files
- 4.4 Mounting Filesystems with Systemd
- 4.5 Using Sockets
- 4.6 Scheduling Processes with Timers
- 4.7 Analyzing Systemd Performance
- 4.8 Advanced Dependency Handling
- 4.9 Managing Resource Allocation – Part 1
- 4.10 Managing Resource Allocation – Part 2
- 4.11 Managing Resource Allocation – Part 3
- 4.12 Creating Custom Units
- 4.13 Creating Custom Targets
- 4.14 Running User Processes in Systemd

Lesson 5: Hardware Handling

- 5.1 Understanding Device Nodes
- 5.2 Initializing Devices Automatically or Manually
- 5.3 Analyzing sysfs
- 5.4 Systemd-udevd
- 5.5 Creating Udev Rules

Module 2: Storage and Filesystems

Lesson 6: Storage Devices

- 6.1 Linux Storage Devices
- 6.2 Partitions: MBR and GPT
- 6.3 Managing Partitions
- 6.4 Images and ISO Files
- 6.5 Understanding Flexible Storage Solutions
- 6.6 Managing LVM Logical Volumes
- 6.7 Using LVM Features

- 6.8 Device Mapper
- 6.9 Manually Creating Device Mapper Storage
- 6.10 LVM and VDO
- 6.11 Stratis
- 6.12 Creating Encrypted Devices
- 6.13 Booting from Encrypted Devices

Lesson 7: Filesystems

- 7.1 Filesystems and the VFS
- 7.2 About POSIX and non-POSIX Filesystems
- 7.3 Linux Filesystem Components
- 7.4 Inodes and Block Allocation
- 7.5 Sparse Files
- 7.6 FUSE Filesystems
- 7.7 Next-generation Filesystems
- 7.8 Running ZFS on Linux
- 7.9 Running Btrfs
- 7.10 Using the Ext Filesystem Debugger
- 7.11 Managing XFS IDs

Lesson 8: Cloud and Datacenter Storage

- 8.1 Storage Challenges in Cloud and Datacenter
- 8.2 Working with SSD Media
- 8.3 Understanding iSCSI
- 8.4 Configuring iSCSI Storage
- 8.5 Connecting the Initiator
- 8.6 Object Storage
- 8.7 Configuring a Ceph Cluster
- 8.8 Configuring a Ceph Client

Module 3: Core Linux Components

Lesson 9: Memory Management

- 9.1 Linux Memory Allocation: Virtual vs. Physical Memory
- 9.2 Cache
- 9.3 Active and Inactive Memory
- 9.4 The Need to Swap
- 9.5 Configuring and Monitoring Swap Space
- 9.6 Managing Huge Pages
- 9.7 Managing Dirty Cache
- 9.8 Out of Memory (OOM) and Dealing with it
- 9.9 Analyzing Kernel Memory

Lesson 10: Processes

- 10.1 How a Process is Created
- 10.2 Processes and Threads
- 10.3 Killing a Zombie
- 10.4 Priorities, Schedulers, and Nice Values
- 10.5 Inter-process Communication, Sockets, Pipes, and More
- 10.6 Communicating on the D-Bus Message Interface
- 10.7 Monitoring IPC Usage

Lesson 11: Linux Commands and How They Work

- 11.1 Exploring What Happens When Commands are Executed
- 11.2 System Space and User Space
- 11.3 Understanding System Calls
- 11.4 How Processes get Access to System Calls
- 11.5 How Process Memory is Organized
- 11.6 Creating Processes
- 11.7 Allocating Memory
- 11.8 Accessing Libraries
- 11.9 Analyzing Library Usage

Lesson 12: Networking

- 12.1 Linux Network Device Names
- 12.2 The OSI Model
- 12.3 Transforming Data into Packets
- 12.4 Analyzing Packet Headers
- 12.5 IPv4 and IPv6
- 12.6 How Linux Chooses a Network Interface
- 12.7 Analyzing and Optimizing Networking
- 12.8 Bonding and Teaming
- 12.9 Network Bridge Devices

Module 4: Key Linux Components

Lesson 13: Containers are Linux, Linux is Containers

- 13.1 Running an Application on Linux
- 13.2 Running Applications in a Chroot Jail
- 13.3 Managing Linux Process Resource Allocation
- 13.4 Using unshare to run Namespaced Processes
- 13.5 Running Linux Applications with Namespaces and Cgroups
- 13.6 From Restricted Linux Applications to Containers
- 13.7 Container Runtimes

13.8 Systemd Containers

13.9 Containers and the Future of Linux

Lesson 14: The Code Behind Linux

14.1 The C Programming Language

14.2 Working Together in Git

14.3 From Git Project to Linux Distributions

14.4 C Programs: From Source Code to Binary

14.5 C and Libraries

14.6 Compiling a C Program from a Makefile