



RHCSA: CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRAINING PATH

This document provides additional information to IT professionals who are actively trying to decide which training course they should attend to prepare for the competencies tested on the Red Hat Certified System Administration (RHCSA) exam.

CERTIFICATION OVERVIEW: RED HAT CERTIFIED SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR (RHCSA)

The RHCSA credential aligns with the critical skills required of today's systems administrators. As with all Red Hat certification exams, the RHCSA exam continues the practice of evaluating knowledge and skills through hands-on, lab-based exams. In addition, the RHCSA certification is a required credential for IT professionals attempting to earn a Red Hat Certified Engineer (RHCE) certification.

TRAINING PATHS: WHICH IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Red Hat has created two distinct learning paths for students who wish take training when preparing to earn an RHCSA. One path is designed for IT professionals who are new to Linux administration, and the second is for those who already are proficient at administering Linux at the command line.

OPTION ONE: RED HAT SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION I & II

The primary training path for the majority of students will be the Red Hat System Administration I & II courses.

This two-course path provides comprehensive coverage of the administration tasks that Linux administrators most frequently confront and that are tested in the RHCSA exam.

This training path is designed for IT professionals with limited production Linux administration experience. The audience may have experience installing and investigating Linux, but lack significant and necessary Linux/UNIX command line skills.

Early in the first course, System Administration I, the graphical system administration approach will be featured. Over the nine days of the two-course training path, students will transition to command-line-based approaches.

OPTION TWO: RHCSA RAPID TRACK COURSE

The second option for those wanting to take training to prepare for the RHCSA exam is the RHCSA Rapid Track Course. This course is designed for IT professionals who already have experience with command line Linux administration tasks. This four-day course is optimized for administrators who already possess the knowledge of commands like `su`, `grep`, `yum`, `fdisk`, `useradd`, `ln`, and `mkfs.ext4`. Although this course contains some concepts from System Administration I & II, it is not a boot camp course. This course abbreviates discussion of many of the introductory concepts taught in the two-course sequence. It does not contain boot camp characteristics, such as extended hours, an intense delivery, or training based on all variables covered on the RHCSA exam. The RHCSA Rapid Course is also a good starting point for veteran UNIX administrator.

WHICH OPTION TO CHOOSE: RED HAT SKILLS ASSESSMENT TOOL

The best way to determine which RHCSA training path is right for you is to take a skills assessment. This free, online tool helps IT professionals eliminate the guesswork in choosing the most appropriate training path. The tool will map out a personalized training path based on experience and proficiency level.

Caution: Do NOT begin your training with Red Hat System Administration II

If you are an IT professional preparing to take the RHCSA exam, we do not recommend you begin your training with Red Hat System Administration II. This course is designed as a followup to Red Hat System Administration I. The one course alone does not provide comprehensive coverage of the tasks covered on the RHCSA exam. IT professionals who begin with Red Hat System Administration II will find that there are important competencies missing that will be tested on the RHCSA exam.



The recommended training path for IT professionals who already have experience with command line Linux administration tasks is the RHCSA Rapid Track Course. To emphasize this point, the following topics are **not covered** in the System Administration II course; however, these skills will be needed for the RHCSA exam:

- Configure a system to run a default configuration FTP server
- Configure a system to run a default configuration NTP server and synchronize time using other NTP peers
- Configure firewall settings using system-config-firewall or iptables
- Configure systems to mount network file systems automatically
- Create and configure set-GID directories for collaboration
- List, set, and change standard ugo/rwx permissions
- Diagnose and correct file permission problems
- 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
- Access a virtual machine's console
- Start and stop virtual machines
- Issue commands with correct syntax
- VNC configuration
- Star command

- Create, delete, copy, and move files and directories
- Create soft links
- Locate, read, and use system documentation including man, info, and files in /usr/share/doc
- Boot, reboot, and shut down a system normally
- Boot systems into different runlevels manually
- Configure systems to mount file systems at boot by label
- Configure systems to boot into a specific runlevel automatically

For the complete RHCSA exam objectives, go to redhat.com/certification/rhcsa and select “exam objectives.”

ABOUT RED HAT TRAINING

Red Hat Training delivers more than 30 Red Hat® Enterprise Linux® and JBoss Enterprise Middleware courses that are offered in classroom, corporate on-site, and online settings. Our award-winning courses are taught by certified instructors and include hands-on labs and performance-based testing. This means your team acquires real-world skills that IT professionals need to manage successful open source infrastructures.

READY TO TRAIN?

Contact a training specialist. Red Hat training is a critical strategy that helps companies realize the full potential of their IT teams and Red Hat enterprise technology. Contact a member of our sales team or an authorized Red Hat training partner for assistance designing a training path that is right for your needs.

Explore these and other Red Hat training solutions at redhat.com/training.

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