

– LPI 102 –

Use and manage local system documentation [4]

(Linux Professional Institute Certification)

a

```
.~.  
/V\      by: geoffrey robertson  
// \\\      geoffrey@zip.com.au  
@._.@  
%% $Id: gl2.108.1.slides.tex,v 1.2 2003/10/22 05:38:14 geoffr Exp $
```

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Use and Manage Local System Documentation

Objective

Candidates should be able to use and administer the man facility and the material in `/usr/share/doc/`.

This objective includes finding relevant man pages, searching man page sections, finding commands and man pages related to them, and configuring access to man sources and the man system.

It also includes using system documentation stored in `/usr/share/doc/` and determining what documentation to keep in `/usr/share/doc/`.

Use and Manage Local System Documentation

Key files, terms, and utilities

MANPATH

man

apropos

whatis

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Resources

Using whatis

display manual page descriptions

Using `what is`

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`what is` searches the manual page names and displays the manual page descriptions of any name matched.

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```
$ whatis nmap ↵
```

```
nmap    (1)  - Network exploration tool  
           and security scanner
```

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```

```
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          and security scanner
```

(in Debian Woody but not RH9.0)

```
-r, --regex      Interpret each name as  
                  a regular expression.
```

```
$ whatis -r ^ifc ↵
```

```
ifconfig (8)  - configure a network interface
```


Using apropos

search the manual page names and descriptions

Each manual page has a short description available within it. `apropos` searches the descriptions for instances of keyword.

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```
$ apropos nmap ↵
```

```
MapWindow (3tk)      - map or unmap a window  
mmap (2)             - map or unmap files or d  
munmap (2)           - map or unmap files or devi  
nmap (1)              - Network exploration tool and  
k_MapWindow (3tk)   - map or unmap a window  
...
```