LPI Linux Certification In A Nutshell (In A Nutshell (O'Reilly))

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Synopsis

LPI Linux Certification in a Nutshell, Second Edition is an invaluable resource for determining what you need to practice to pass the Linux Professional Institute exams. This book will help you determine when you’re ready to take the exams, which are technically challenging and designed to reflect the skills that administrators need in real working environments. As more corporations adopt Linux as the networking backbone for their IT systems, the demand for certified technicians will become even greater. Passing the LPI exams will broaden your career options because the LPIC is the most widely known and respected Linux certification program in the world. Linux Journal recognized the LPI as the best Training and Certification Program. The exams were developed by the Linux Professional Institute, an international, volunteer-driven organization with affiliates in a dozen countries. The core LPI exams cover two levels. Level 1 tests a basic knowledge of Linux installation, configuration, and command-line skills. Level 2 goes into much more depth regarding system troubleshooting and network services such as email and the Web. The second edition of LPI Linux Certification in a Nutshell is a thoroughly researched reference to these exams. The book is divided into four parts, one for each of the LPI exams. Each part features not only a summary of the core skills you need, but sample exercises and test questions, along with helpful hints to let you focus your energies. Major topics include: GNU and Unix commands, Linux installation and package management, devices, filesystems, and kernel configuration, text editing, processing, and printing, the X Window System, networking fundamentals and troubleshooting, security, including intrusion detection, SSH, Kerberos, and more, DNS, DHCP, file sharing, and other networking infrastructure, email, FTP, and Web services.

Praise for the first edition: “Although O’Reilly’s Nutshell series are intended as ‘Desktop Reference’ manuals, I have to recommend this one as a good all-round read; not only as a primer for LPI certification, but as an excellent introductory text on GNU/Linux. In all, this is a valuable addition to O’Reilly’s already packed stable of Linux titles and I look forward to more from the author.” — First Monday

Book Information

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The first thing I want to say about reading this book is: I passed! Certification books serve four purposes: first, they serve as a way to prepare for computerized certification exams. Second, they provide a training plan for learning the objectives in the certification. Third, can a book explain system administration concepts while limiting a reader’s exposure to difficult, elusive topics until later? Fourth, can a book like this still be useful post-certification? Part One (covering the 101 test) contained generous amounts of examples for text-processing commands and a really top-notch discussion of permissions, ownership, booting and documentation. Helpfully, need to know boxes are scattered throughout the book to indicate how important a topic is on the test. Frequently, the author will point out that although he explained a certain topic in depth, it won’t be covered in depth on the test. I really appreciated that, although I found that the actual test covered certain topics (such as X Windows) in much more depth than Dean leads us to believe. One thing, by the way, to remember, is that often the book gives only the 5 or 6 most popular switches for each command. If you learned about these commands only from this book, you might be overlooking some important switches. I found this especially to be true when Dean discussed user management. I consider usermod g and usermod G to be really important commands, but this book didn’t even mention them. On the other hand, Dean gave an explanation of regular expressions which was quite adequate for the purposes of this book. Although omitting some switches proved exasperating at times, the simplified view of the commands can be helpful for Linux newbies.

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