

SECTION 4 Use the YaST Management Utility to Administer the System

In this section of the workbook, you learn how to do the following:

- “Get to Know YaST” on 4-1
- “Install New Software” on 4-2
- “Manage User Accounts with YaST” on 4-5
- “Change Your Printer Configuration” on 4-7
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Exercise 4-1 Get to Know YaST

While YaST is not relevant for CompTIA’s Linux+ exam it is nevertheless a tool used very frequently when administering SLES9.

The purpose of this exercise is to give you a first idea of what can be done with YaST. During the remainder of this course, you will see that it is a very powerful tool.

To use the graphical version of YaST, do the following:

1. From the KDE desktop, start YaST by selecting the **YaST** icon.
2. Enter the root password **novell** in the Run as root dialog; then select **OK**.

The YaST Control Center appears.

3. Select **Misc > View System Log**.
4. From the top drop-down list, select **/proc/version**.
5. Close the log window by selecting **OK**.

Note: If your VMWare host runs Linux, depending on the settings of the VMWare software, this might open console 1 on the host, not the VMWare machine.

6. Select **System > Date and Time**.
7. Select **Change Time or Date**.
8. Enter the current time (such as **08:00:00**) and the current date (such as **27.09.2005**).
9. Select **Apply**.
10. Select **Accept**.
11. Switch to console 1 by pressing **Ctrl + Alt + F1**.
12. Log in as **root** with a password of **novell**.
13. View a list of the available YaST modules by entering
yast -l
14. Log out by entering **exit**.
15. Switch back to the graphical interface by pressing **Ctrl + Alt + F7**.
16. Close the YaST Control Center.

(End of Exercise)

Exercise 4-2 Install New Software

Installing and removing software is a very common task of a system administrator. YaST offers a convenient way to do this. Other procedures are covered later in this course as well.

In this exercise, you install new software on your SLES 9 server.

Because the SLES 9 VMWare server has more installed packages than the SLES 9 server you install in Exercise 1-1, there are 2 parts to this exercise (based on your SLES 9 server installation).

To install new software, do one of the following to complete the exercise:

- [Install New Software \(Exercise 1-1 Installation\)](#)
- [Install New Software \(VMware Installation\)](#)



If you are using VMware Workstation, and YaST does not recognize the SLES 9 CD after inserting the CD and selecting OK, make sure you have selected Use physical drive and the mapped drive (Windows) or the device name (Linux) from the drop-down list.

You make this change during the exercise by pressing **Ctrl + Alt + Shift** to access VMware, and then selecting **VM > Settings**.

You need to install the `findutils-locate` package for other exercises to work properly.

Install New Software (Exercise 1-1 Installation)

Do the following:

1. From the KDE desktop, select the **YaST** icon; then enter a password of **novell** and select **OK**.
2. From the YaST Control Center, select **Software > Install and Remove Software**
3. From the Filter drop-down list, select **Selections**.
4. From the left side of the window, select **Various Linux Tools**

Make sure there is no checkmark to the left of Various Linux Tools.
5. From the right side of the window, select the package **findutils-locate**
6. Select **Accept**.
7. (Conditional) If requested by YaST, insert the appropriate **SLES 9 CD**; then select **OK**.
8. Close the YaST Control Center by selecting **Close**.

9. (Conditional) If you installed from CD, remove the CD from your drive.

Install New Software (VMware Installation)

Do the following:

1. From the KDE desktop, select the **YaST** icon; then enter a password of **novell** and select **OK**.
2. From the YaST Control Center, select
Software > Install and Remove Software
3. Make sure that **Search** is selected from the Filter drop-down list.
4. In the Search field, enter **graphics**; then select **Search**.
5. In the Package list on the right, select **kdegraphics3** and **kdegraphics3-extra**.
Make sure each package is checked.
6. Select **Accept**.
7. Insert the requested **SLES 9 CD**; then select **OK**.
8. After the packages are installed and configured, close the YaST Control Center by selecting **Close**.
9. Remove the CD from the drive.
10. View the new graphics applications by selecting **Graphics and Utilities > Desktop** from the KDE menu.

(End of Exercise)

Exercise 4-3 Manage User Accounts with YaST

Managing user accounts is a common task for a system administrator. The purpose of this exercise is to show you how it is done using YaST. (In a later exercise the same task is done using command line tools.)

To manage user accounts with YaST, do the following:

1. From the KDE desktop, select the **YaST** icon; then enter a password of **novell** and select **OK**.
The YaST Control Center appears.
2. From the YaST Control Center, select **Security and Users > Edit and create users**
3. Add a new user by selecting **Add**.
4. Enter the following information:
 - Full User Name: **Tux Linux**
 - User Login: **tux**
 - Password: **novell**
 - Verify Password: **novell**
5. When you finish, select **Create**.
6. Confirm the first password warning by selecting **Yes**.
7. Confirm the second password warning by selecting **Yes**.
8. Save the new settings by selecting **Finish**.
9. From the KDE menu, log out by selecting **Logout > Logout**.
X Window restarts and the GUI login screen appears.
10. In the Username field enter **tux**.
11. In the Password field enter **novell**.
12. Select **Login**.
13. Close or cancel any displayed dialogs.

14. Start the Konqueror file manager by selecting the *blue house* icon in Kicker.
The content of Tux's home directory is displayed.
15. Browse to the directory */etc/*.
16. Select the file *passwd*.
Notice the entries for users tux and geeko at the end of the file.
17. Close the Konqueror window.
18. From the KDE menu, log out by selecting **Logout > Logout**.
19. Log in as *geeko* with a password of *N0v3ll*.
20. Start YaST from the desktop by selecting the **YaST** icon.
21. Enter a root password of *novell*; then select **OK**.
22. From the YaST Control Center, select
Security and Users > Edit and create users
23. From the list of users, select *tux*; then select **Delete**.
24. Select **Delete Home Directory /home/tux**; then select **Yes**.
25. Select **Finish**.
26. Confirm that the user tux has been removed by doing the following:
 - a. Start the Konqueror file manager by selecting the *blue house* icon in Kicker.
 - b. The content of Geeko's home directory is displayed.
 - c. Browse to the directory */etc/*.
 - d. Select the file *passwd*.
Notice the entry for tux has been removed from the end of the file.
 - e. Close the Konqueror window.

27. Close the YaST Control Center.

(End of Exercise)



10 minutes

Exercise 4-4 Change Your Printer Configuration

Configuring a printer is made remarkably simple with YaST in SLES 9. There is no real alternative to it, as the printer configuration involves various files and directories and configuring them “by hand” would be rather complex.

The purpose of this exercise is to familiarize you with the YaST printer module.

In this exercise, you change your printer configuration by adding a new printer.

Do the following:

1. Start YaST from the desktop by selecting the **YaST** icon.
2. Enter a root password of **novell** and select **OK**.
3. From the YaST Control Center, select **Hardware > Printer**.
The Printer configuration dialog appears.
4. Add a new queue for a printer by selecting **Configure**.
5. For the printer type, make sure **Parallel Printer** is selected (even if no printer is connected to your machine); then select **Next**.
6. Accept **First Parallel Port (/dev/lp0)** as the printer device by selecting **Next**.
7. In the Name for printing field, enter **hplj4**; then continue by selecting **Next**.

A Printer model dialog appears, with a list of manufacturers and a list of models.

8. From the manufacturer list, select **HP**; from the model list, select **Laserjet 4**.
9. When you finish, select **Next**.
An Edit configuration dialog appears.
10. Change the settings of the printing filter by selecting **Printing Filter Settings**; then select **Edit**.
11. Change the number of pages that should be printed on one sheet of paper by selecting **Pages Per Sheet** in the Options list and **2** in the Values list.
12. When you finish, continue by selecting **Next**.
13. Return to the list of known print queues by selecting **OK**.
14. Finish the configuration by selecting **Finish**.
15. Confirm that the printer has been added by doing the following:
 - a. From the KDE menu, select **Utilities > Printing > Printers**.
A Printing Manager dialog appears.
Notice that hplj4 is listed as a printer.
 - b. Select one or more tab pages (such as **Properties**) for the printer.
 - c. When you finish, close the Printing Manager dialog.
16. Close the YaST Control Center.

(End of Exercise)

Exercise 4-5 Obtain Hardware Configuration Information

It is not always feasible to take a screwdriver and to open a machine to see what is in it. The purpose of this exercise is to show you a way to obtain information on hardware more easily.

To obtain hardware configuration information about your computer, do the following:

1. Open the YaST Control Center; then select **Hardware > Hardware Information**.
Wait until YaST has scanned your hardware.
2. Check the results of the detection.
3. When you finish, close the Hardware info window by selecting **Close**.
4. Close the YaST Control Center.

(End of Exercise)

Exercise 4-6 Optional: Explore the Components of the X Window System

The X Server is a program of its own, as is are the various windowmanagers. The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the separate components to you.

1. Log out from the graphical environment and switch to a text console using **Ctrl + Alt + F1**. Log in as root with a password of *novell*.
2. Switch to runlevel 3 by entering **init 3** (runlevels are explained in more detail later in the course).
3. Start the X server by entering **X &**. A graphical surface with some grey pattern and a mouse cursor appears.
4. Switch back to the text console using **Ctrl + Alt + F1**. Try to start an xterm by entering **xterm &**. You will get an error message: "Can't open display".
5. Start the xterm again, this time setting the display variable: **DISPLAY=:0 xterm &**.
6. Switch to the graphical screen using **Alt + F7**.
7. Move the mouse cursor above the xterm window and enter **fvwm &**.
8. Explore the features of fvwm if you like. Start with clicking on the background with the left mouse button. Choose from the menu. Do the same with the right button.
9. Kill the X server by pressing **Ctrl + Alt + Backspace**.
10. Switch back to runlevel 5 by entering **init 5** in the text console. When the graphical login screen appears log in as geeko with a password of *N0v3ll*.

(End of Exercise)