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# Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'timedatectl.1'

## \$ man timedatectl.1

TIMEDATECTL(1)

timedatectl

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NAME

timedatectl - Control the system time and date

**SYNOPSIS** 

timedatectl [OPTIONS...] {COMMAND}

## **DESCRIPTION**

timedatectl may be used to query and change the system clock and its settings, and enable or disable time synchronization services.

Use systemd-firstboot(1) to initialize the system time zone for mounted (but not booted) system images.

timedatectl may be used to show the current status of time synchronization services, for example systemd-timesyncd.service(8).

## **COMMANDS**

The following commands are understood:

status

Show current settings of the system clock and RTC, including whether network time synchronization is active. If no command is specified, this is the implied default.

show

Show the same information as status, but in machine readable form. This command is intended to be used whenever computer-parsable output is required. Use status if you are looking for formatted human-readable output.

By default, empty properties are suppressed. Use --all to show those too. To select specific properties to show, use --property=.

### set-time [TIME]

Set the system clock to the specified time. This will also update the RTC time accordingly. The time may be specified in the format "2012-10-30 18:17:16".

### set-timezone [TIMEZONE]

Set the system time zone to the specified value. Available timezones can be listed with list-timezones. If the RTC is configured to be in the local time, this will also update the RTC time. This call will alter the /etc/localtime symlink. See localtime(5) for more information.

## list-timezones

List available time zones, one per line. Entries from the list can be set as the system timezone with set-timezone.

# set-local-rtc [BOOL]

Takes a boolean argument. If "0", the system is configured to maintain the RTC in universal time. If "1", it will maintain the RTC in local time instead. Note that maintaining the RTC in the local timezone is not fully supported and will create various problems with time zone changes and daylight saving adjustments. If at all possible, keep the RTC in UTC mode. Note that invoking this will also synchronize the RTC from the system clock, unless --adjust-system-clock is passed (see above). This command will change the 3rd line of /etc/adjtime, as documented in hwclock(8).

Takes a boolean argument. Controls whether network time synchronization is active and enabled (if available). If the argument is true, this enables and starts the first existing network synchronization service. If the argument is false, then this disables and stops the known network synchronization services. The way that the list of services is built is described in systemd-timedated.service(8).

#### systemd-timesyncd Commands

The following commands are specific to systemd-timesyncd.service(8).

# timesync-status

set-ntp [BOOL]

Show current status of systemd-timesyncd.service(8). If --monitor is specified, then this will monitor the status updates.

# show-timesync

Show the same information as timesync-status, but in machine readable form. This command is intended to be used whenever computer-parsable output is required. Use

timesync-status if you are looking for formatted human-readable output.

By default, empty properties are suppressed. Use --all to show those too. To select specific properties to show, use --property=.

# ntp-servers INTERFACE SERVER...

Set the interface specific NTP servers. This command can be used only when the interface is managed by systemd-networkd.

## revert INTERFACE

Revert the interface specific NTP servers. This command can be used only when the interface is managed by systemd-networkd.

### **OPTIONS**

The following options are understood:

## --no-ask-password

Do not query the user for authentication for privileged operations.

## --adjust-system-clock

If set-local-rtc is invoked and this option is passed, the system clock is synchronized from the RTC again, taking the new setting into account. Otherwise, the RTC is synchronized from the system clock.

### --monitor

If timesync-status is invoked and this option is passed, then timedatectl monitors the status of systemd-timesyncd.service(8) and updates the outputs. Use Ctrl+C to terminate the monitoring.

## -a, --all

When showing properties of systemd-timesyncd.service(8), show all properties regardless of whether they are set or not.

# -p, --property=

When showing properties of systemd-timesyncd.service(8), limit display to certain properties as specified as argument. If not specified, all set properties are shown.

The argument should be a property name, such as "ServerName". If specified more than once, all properties with the specified names are shown.

#### --value

When printing properties with show-timesync, only print the value, and skip the property name and "=".

Execute the operation remotely. Specify a hostname, or a username and hostname separated by "@", to connect to. The hostname may optionally be suffixed by a port ssh is listening on, separated by ":", and then a container name, separated by "/", which connects directly to a specific container on the specified host. This will use SSH to talk to the remote machine manager instance. Container names may be enumerated with machinectl -H HOST. Put IPv6 addresses in brackets.

## -M, --machine=

Execute operation on a local container. Specify a container name to connect to, optionally prefixed by a user name to connect as and a separating "@" character. If the special string ".host" is used in place of the container name, a connection to the local system is made (which is useful to connect to a specific user's user bus: "--user --machine=lennart@.host"). If the "@" syntax is not used, the connection is made as root user. If the "@" syntax is used either the left hand side or the right hand side may be omitted (but not both) in which case the local user name and ".host" are implied.

## -h, --help

Print a short help text and exit.

### --version

Print a short version string and exit.

#### --no-pager

Do not pipe output into a pager.

## **EXIT STATUS**

On success, 0 is returned, a non-zero failure code otherwise.

# **ENVIRONMENT**

# \$SYSTEMD\_LOG\_LEVEL

The maximum log level of emitted messages (messages with a higher log level, i.e. less important ones, will be suppressed). Either one of (in order of decreasing importance) emerg, alert, crit, err, warning, notice, info, debug, or an integer in the range 0...7. See syslog(3) for more information.

## \$SYSTEMD\_LOG\_COLOR

A boolean. If true, messages written to the tty will be colored according to priority.

This setting is only useful when messages are written directly to the terminal,

because journalctl(1) and other tools that display logs will color messages based on

the log level on their own.

## \$SYSTEMD LOG TIME

A boolean. If true, console log messages will be prefixed with a timestamp.

This setting is only useful when messages are written directly to the terminal or a file, because journalctl(1) and other tools that display logs will attach timestamps based on the entry metadata on their own.

## \$SYSTEMD\_LOG\_LOCATION

A boolean. If true, messages will be prefixed with a filename and line number in the source code where the message originates.

Note that the log location is often attached as metadata to journal entries anyway.

Including it directly in the message text can nevertheless be convenient when debugging programs.

### \$SYSTEMD\_LOG\_TID

A boolean. If true, messages will be prefixed with the current numerical thread ID (TID).

Note that the this information is attached as metadata to journal entries anyway. Including it directly in the message text can nevertheless be convenient when debugging programs.

# \$SYSTEMD\_LOG\_TARGET

The destination for log messages. One of console (log to the attached tty), console-prefixed (log to the attached tty but with prefixes encoding the log level and "facility", see syslog(3), kmsg (log to the kernel circular log buffer), journal (log to the journal), journal-or-kmsg (log to the journal if available, and to kmsg otherwise), auto (determine the appropriate log target automatically, the default), null (disable log output).

#### \$SYSTEMD PAGER

Pager to use when --no-pager is not given; overrides \$PAGER. If neither \$SYSTEMD\_PAGER nor \$PAGER are set, a set of well-known pager implementations are tried in turn, including less(1) and more(1), until one is found. If no pager implementation is discovered no pager is invoked. Setting this environment variable to an empty string or the value "cat" is equivalent to passing --no-pager.

# \$SYSTEMD\_LESS

Users might want to change two options in particular:

K

This option instructs the pager to exit immediately when Ctrl+C is pressed. To allow less to handle Ctrl+C itself to switch back to the pager command prompt, unset this option.

If the value of \$SYSTEMD\_LESS does not include "K", and the pager that is invoked is less, Ctrl+C will be ignored by the executable, and needs to be handled by the pager.

Χ

This option instructs the pager to not send termcap initialization and deinitialization strings to the terminal. It is set by default to allow command output to remain visible in the terminal even after the pager exits. Nevertheless, this prevents some pager functionality from working, in particular paged output cannot be scrolled with the mouse.

See less(1) for more discussion.

## \$SYSTEMD\_LESSCHARSET

Override the charset passed to less (by default "utf-8", if the invoking terminal is determined to be UTF-8 compatible).

# \$SYSTEMD\_PAGERSECURE

Takes a boolean argument. When true, the "secure" mode of the pager is enabled; if false, disabled. If \$SYSTEMD\_PAGERSECURE is not set at all, secure mode is enabled if the effective UID is not the same as the owner of the login session, see geteuid(2) and sd\_pid\_get\_owner\_uid(3). In secure mode, LESSSECURE=1 will be set when invoking the pager, and the pager shall disable commands that open or create new files or start new subprocesses. When \$SYSTEMD\_PAGERSECURE is not set at all, pagers which are not known to implement secure mode will not be used. (Currently only less(1) implements secure mode.)

Note: when commands are invoked with elevated privileges, for example under sudo(8) or pkexec(1), care must be taken to ensure that unintended interactive features are not enabled. "Secure" mode for the pager may be enabled automatically as describe above.

Setting SYSTEMD\_PAGERSECURE=0 or not removing it from the inherited environment allows the user to invoke arbitrary commands. Note that if the \$SYSTEMD\_PAGER or \$PAGER variables are to be honoured, \$SYSTEMD\_PAGERSECURE must be set too. It might be

reasonable to completely disable the pager using --no-pager instead.

\$SYSTEMD COLORS

Takes a boolean argument. When true, systemd and related utilities will use colors in

their output, otherwise the output will be monochrome. Additionally, the variable can

take one of the following special values: "16", "256" to restrict the use of colors to

the base 16 or 256 ANSI colors, respectively. This can be specified to override the

automatic decision based on \$TERM and what the console is connected to.

\$SYSTEMD\_URLIFY

The value must be a boolean. Controls whether clickable links should be generated in

the output for terminal emulators supporting this. This can be specified to override

the decision that systemd makes based on \$TERM and other conditions.

**EXAMPLES** 

Show current settings:

\$ timedatectl

Local time: Thu 2017-09-21 16:08:56 CEST

Universal time: Thu 2017-09-21 14:08:56 UTC

RTC time: Thu 2017-09-21 14:08:56

Time zone: Europe/Warsaw (CEST, +0200)

System clock synchronized: yes

NTP service: active

RTC in local TZ: no

Enable network time synchronization:

\$ timedatectl set-ntp true

==== AUTHENTICATING FOR org.freedesktop.timedate1.set-ntp ===

Authentication is required to control whether network time synchronization shall be enabled.

Authenticating as: user

Password: \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

==== AUTHENTICATION COMPLETE ===

\$ systemctl status systemd-timesyncd.service

? systemd-timesyncd.service - Network Time Synchronization

Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/systemd-timesyncd.service; enabled)

Active: active (running) since Mo 2015-03-30 14:20:38 CEST; 5s ago

Docs: man:systemd-timesyncd.service(8)

```
Main PID: 595 (systemd-timesyn)
        Status: "Using Time Server 216.239.38.15:123 (time4.google.com)."
        CGroup: /system.slice/systemd-timesyncd.service
             ??595 /lib/systemd/systemd-timesyncd
    Show current status of systemd-timesyncd.service(8):
      $ timedatectl timesync-status
           Server: 216.239.38.15 (time4.google.com)
      Poll interval: 1min 4s (min: 32s; max 34min 8s)
            Leap: normal
          Version: 4
          Stratum: 1
         Reference: GPS
         Precision: 1us (-20)
      Root distance: 335us (max: 5s)
          Offset: +316us
           Delay: 349us
          Jitter: 0
       Packet count: 1
         Frequency: -8.802ppm
SEE ALSO
    systemd(1), hwclock(8), date(1), localtime(5), systemctl(1), systemd-timedated.service(8),
    systemd-timesyncd.service(8), systemd-firstboot(1)
systemd 249
                                                        TIMEDATECTL(1)
```