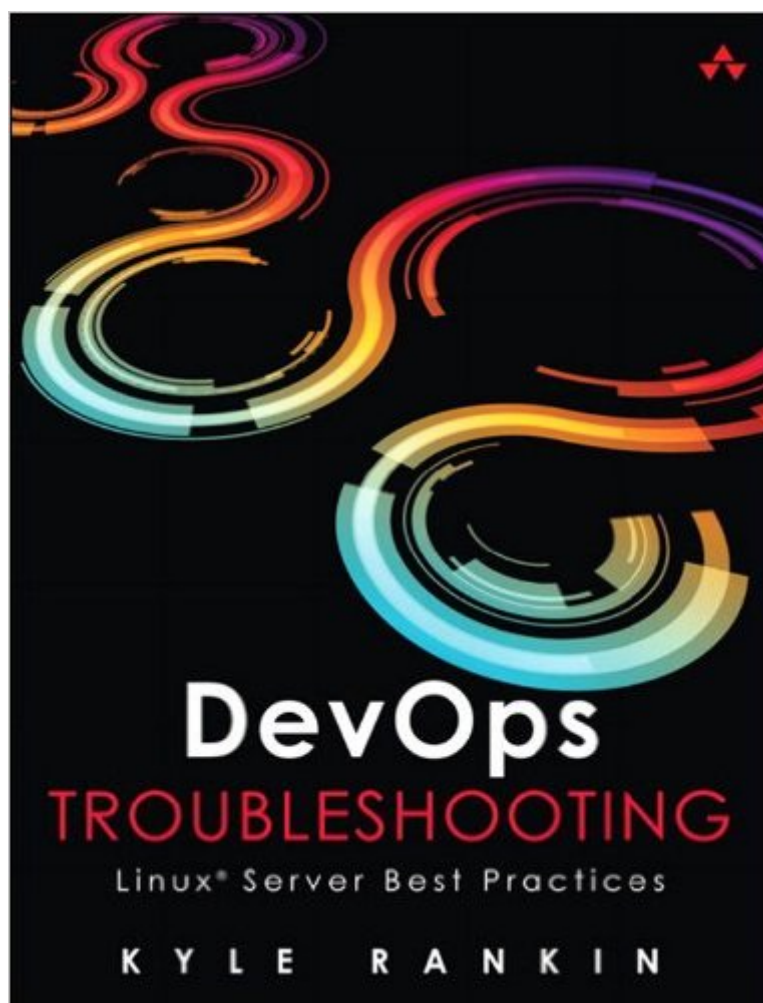


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# DevOps Troubleshooting: Linux Server Best Practices



## Synopsis

“If you’re a developer trying to figure out why your application is not responding at 3 am, you need this book! This is now my go-to book when diagnosing production issues. It has saved me hours in troubleshooting complicated operations problems.” —Trotter Cashion, cofounder, Mashion

DevOps can help developers, QAs, and admins work together to solve Linux server problems far more rapidly, significantly improving IT performance, availability, and efficiency. To gain these benefits, however, team members need common troubleshooting skills and practices.

In *DevOps Troubleshooting: Linux Server Best Practices*, award-winning Linux expert Kyle Rankin brings together all the standardized, repeatable techniques your team needs to stop finger-pointing, collaborate effectively, and quickly solve virtually any Linux server problem. Rankin walks you through using DevOps techniques to troubleshoot everything from boot failures and corrupt disks to lost email and downed websites. You’ll master indispensable skills for diagnosing high-load systems and network problems in production environments.

Rankin shows how to Master DevOps™ approach to troubleshooting and proven Linux server problem-solving principles

- Diagnose slow servers and applications by identifying CPU, RAM, and Disk I/O bottlenecks
- Understand healthy boots, so you can identify failure points and fix them
- Solve full or corrupt disk issues that prevent disk writes
- Track down the sources of network problems
- Troubleshoot DNS, email, and other network services
- Isolate and diagnose Apache and Nginx Web server failures and slowdowns
- Solve problems with MySQL and Postgres database servers and queries
- Identify hardware failures—even notoriously elusive intermittent failures

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## Customer Reviews

This is the second book by Kyle Rankin that I have read and reviewed, the first being his co-authored Ubuntu Server book. From reading his articles in Linux Journal and other books, I enjoy his more direct questions and answers approach that is different from other Linux books. Instead of digging around the chapter for the command, Kyle Rankin has the steps and example clearly written, making this a very to the point guide. Reading other Linux books, I feel like I get more usable information from this book over larger volumes on the same topic. From reading DevOps Troubleshooting, I really enjoyed this focus on troubleshooting. Kyle Rankin touched on troubleshooting in the Ubuntu Server book for a chapter, covering many issues but really only so much can be written in a chapter. Glad to see that the demand for this topic lead to a whole book on the topic, especially since troubleshooting is really an art that so many, including myself, need practice on. The book covers the basics in the beginning about the basics of troubleshooting, how to make smart choices in testing the problem. This will give you a good base of building on your troubleshooting skills, instead of using a shotgun approach to solving problems. Also covers managing communication between teams. If you have ever worked on a critical issue, you know how dreaded it can be to "join the voice bridge", all the while working on the problem. The chapters cover the general checks of the Linux operating system from reading performance details, using basic tools like top to find why the system is slow. Other topics also covered are boot problems, disk space issues, tracking down problems between two hosts, dns, e-mail basics, web and SQL server basics, and hardware problems.

Have you ever been responsible for a server and had something go wrong? Ever been in a situation where you didn't know what was causing the problem or how to figure it out? I think any of us who develop code, work in quality assurance, or administer systems have had this sort of experience. Sometimes problems appear that were never covered in a class or training session. Experience is an amazing teacher, but gaining that experience can be intimidating and sometimes painful. This

book gives anyone working in DevOps a bit of a head start. DevOps Troubleshooting: Linux Server Best Practices starts with a discussion of best practices in troubleshooting. This lays a good foundation for the rest of the book and should be read right away. If you don't already know how to narrow down the location or source of a problem, how to communicate with others who may be affected or who can assist, or even where to start when a problem arises, the first chapter gives a solid plan to help you out. Most of the content of this chapter will seem obvious to people with experience, but they were not obvious to us when we started, and this information would have saved most of us a few headaches. Ideas like favoring quick, simple tests over slow and complex one, favoring past solutions that are known to work, and most importantly, understanding how the systems work before doing anything are vital. I like the advice about using the internet, but carefully, and resisting rebooting as a cure-all (because it doesn't help you find the cause of the problem). The chapters that follow are each focused on a specific type of problem. They include discussions of tips, tricks, and tools for diagnosing, and fixing issues.

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