CompTIA

Linux+

What is it?

CompTIA Linux+ validates the skills administrators need to secure the enterprise, power the cloud and keep systems running. The new certification ensures that IT professionals, software developers, cybersecurity engineers and penetration testers have these necessary skills to support today's tech systems.

Why is it different?

- CompTIA Linux+ is the only job-focused Linux certification covering the latest foundational skills demanded by hiring managers.
- Unlike other certifications, the new exam includes performance-based and multiple-choice questions to identify the employees who can do the job.
- The exam covers tasks associated with all major distributions of Linux, setting the foundation for advanced vendor/distro-specific knowledge.

About the exam

CompTIA Linux+ validates mastery of the tools and technologies required to manage, secure, optimize, and troubleshoot, enterprise-level Linux systems.

The major areas of emphasis include:

- Configuration and management of Linux systems
- Operation of on-prem and cloud-based distributions
- Containerization and automation
- Scripting

CompTIA Linux+ opens doors to new career pathways. Cybersecurity, the cloud, and DevOps all rely on Linux.

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XK0-005

July 2022

English, Japanese, German, Portuguese and Spanish

Yes

What's in this version?

The new version of CompTIA Linux+ covers how Linux powers the cloud and automates critical processes. Linux enables business to automate and orchestrate processes to scale and improve operations. These include infrastructure as code and containers, both of which are covered as separate objectives.

The following new subject areas have been added to the new exam:

Emerging technology clusters:
- Containerization of systems running Linux systems
- Developers using Linux for IoT applications
- Automation and scripting
- Ansible, Chef, Puppet
- Automation via SSH
- Docker and Kubernetes

Areas of continued broad involvement include the following:
- Networking
- Virtualization
- Cybersecurity

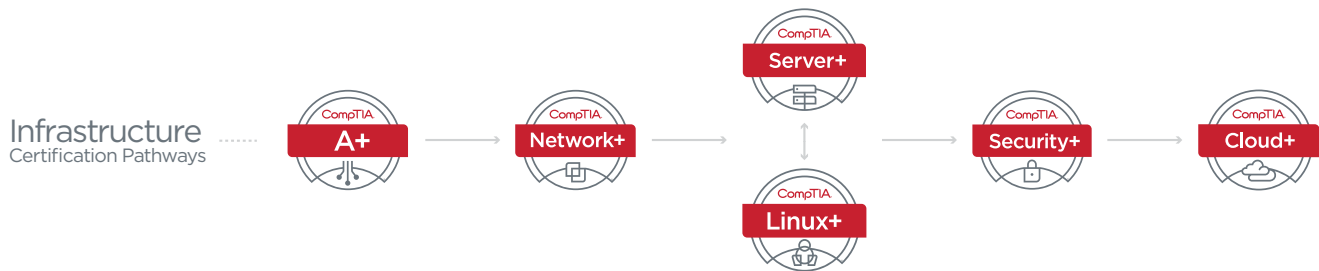**Areas with net increasing time and resources devoted to specific tasks include:**
- Cybersecurity
- Cloud configuration and management
- Supporting and administration of SaaS applications

How does Linux+ Compare to Alternatives?

Certification	Linux+	LPIC-1 from LPA	Red Hat Certified Systems Administrator (RHCSA)	Linux Foundations LFCS
Performance-based Questions	Yes, as well as multiple choice (single & multiple response) and drag and drop. Many of the questions are scenario-based.	No	Only tests tools, does not cover knowledge of broader topics	Only tests tools, does not cover knowledge of broader topics
Exam Length	1 exam with a maximum of 90 questions, 90 minutes	2 exams	10-15 hands-on assignments; 2 1/2 hours	2 hours
Experience Level	12 months as a Junior Linux Engineer	Early career	High-level Red Hat sys admin experience. Very hard to pass without significant hands-on experience and is recommended for advanced Linux professionals.	Linux system administrators early in their career
Exam Focus	Focuses on the latest technology and trends for IT professionals in an enterprise environment. Covers all major distributions of Linux. Recognized in job ads	Does not focus on working in an enterprise environment, therefore not all items are relevant or up-to-date for IT professionals	Covers only Red Hat systems. As a 100% performance-based exam, it is difficult to study for.	Limited to Ubuntu/ CentOS; Content is all task-based
Prerequisites	Recommended CompTIA A+, CompTIA Network+ and 12 months as a Junior Linux Engineer	None	Recommended Red Hat sys admin experience. Though not a prerequisite, Linux+ makes an excellent "ramp-up" to this certification.	None

CompTIA Certification Pathway

CompTIA certifications align with the skillsets needed to support and manage IT infrastructure. Enter where appropriate for you. Consider your experience and existing certifications or course of study.

Infrastructure
Certification Pathways

CompTIA **A+** → CompTIA **Network+** → CompTIA **Server+** ⇅ CompTIA **Linux+** → CompTIA **Security+** → CompTIA **Cloud+**

Top Linux+ Job Titles

Linux Administrator
Junior Cloud Engineer
Junior DevOps Support Engineer

Technical Support Specialist
Systems Administrator
Network Administrator

Web Administrator/ Developer
Cybersecurity Engineer
Linux Engineer

Technical Areas Covered in the Certification

System Management 32%	Security 21%	Scripting, Containers, and Automation 19%	Troubleshooting 28%
• Summarize Linux fundamentals • Manage files and directories • Configure and manage storage using the appropriate tools • Configure and use the appropriate processes and services • Use the appropriate networking tools or configuration files • Build and install software • Manage software configurations	• Summarize the purpose and use of security best practices in a Linux environment • Implement identity management • Implement and configure firewalls • Configure and execute remote connectivity for system management • Apply the appropriate access controls	• Create simple shell scripts to automate common tasks • Perform basic container operations • Perform basic version control using Git • Summarize common infrastructure as code technologies • Summarize container, cloud, and orchestration concepts	• Analyze and troubleshoot storage issues • Analyze and troubleshoot network resource issues • Analyze and troubleshoot central processing unit (CPU) and memory issues • Analyze and troubleshoot user access and file permissions • Use *systemd* to diagnose and resolve common problems with a Linux system

Organizations that contributed to the development of Data+

- Amazon
- American Airlines
- Dell
- GEICO
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Navy

Research and Statistics

Linux+ maps to the framework developed as part of the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE), supporting multiple KSAs within the Operating System competency.

"It all boils down to certification being an internationally recognized credential. If you can put that on your resume, you'll have a competitive advantage."

Mark Milton
Director of People Services, Goodwill Industries

✷ What does it mean to be a "high stakes" exam?

An extraordinarily high level of rigor is employed in developing CompTIA certifications. Each question created for a CompTIA exam undergoes multiple layers of quality assurance and thorough psycho-metric statistical validation, ensuring CompTIA exams are highly representative of knowledge, skills and abilities required of real job roles. This is why CompTIA certifications are a requirement for many professionals working in technology. Hiring managers and candidates alike can be confident that passing a CompTIA certification exam means competence on the job. This is also how CompTIA certifications earn the ANSI/ ISO 17024 accreditation, the standard for personnel certification programs. Over 2.3 million CompTIA ISO/ANSI-accredited exams have been delivered since January 1, 2011.

✷ What does it mean to be a "vendor-neutral" exam?

All CompTIA certification exams are vendor-neutral. This means each exam covers multiple technologies, without confining the candidate to any one platform. Vendor-neutrality is important because it ensures IT professionals can perform important job tasks in any technology environment. IT professionals with vendor-neutral certifications can consider multiple solutions in their approach to problem-solving, making them more flexible and adaptable than those with training in just one technology.

✷ What is a Performance Certification?

CompTIA performance certifications validate the skills associated with a particular job or responsibility. They include simulations that require the test taker to demonstrate multi-step knowledge to complete a task. CompTIA has a higher ratio of these types of questions than any other IT certifying body.

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