

Managing an NIS Server 1

Managing an NIS server includes the following NIS server tasks:

- Add an NIS slave server to a domain

Adding a slave server to a domain enables the slave server to receive updated NIS maps from the master server and serve them to NIS clients in a domain.

- Remove an NIS slave server from a domain

Removing a slave server from a domain means that the system will no longer receive updated NIS maps from the master server and serve them to NIS clients in a domain.

- Add a user to an NIS domain

Adding a new user to an NIS domain includes the user in the **passwd** map and allows the user to participate in the NIS environment. A user has only one password on all systems that use NIS for their **passwd** map.

Managing an NIS Server 2

- Update an NIS map

Updating an NIS map involves making changes to an NIS map's master file, updating the **Makefile** file (if the map is not listed), and building and distributing the new map.

- Add an NIS map to a domain

Adding an NIS map to a domain allows the database information to be distributed throughout an NIS domain. You can create and distribute maps for any information you want to distribute.

- Remove an NIS map from a domain

Removing an NIS map from a domain prevents the database information from being distributed throughout an NIS domain.

Managing an NIS Server 3

- Modify the `/var/yp/Makefile` file
 - Adding an Entry
 - Deleting an Entry
 - Makefile Editing Guidelines

- Restrict access to NIS data

By default, the **ypserv** and **ypxfrd** daemons provide NIS information to anyone with network access to an NIS server that makes a request. However, you can restrict NIS database access to only those hosts in subnets you specify

Managing an NIS client

Managing an NIS client includes the following NIS client tasks:

- Change in NIS password

To change a user's password that is stored in the NIS **passwd** map, use the **yppasswd** command.

- Obtain map information

Obtaining NIS map information enables you to see the following information:

- Map names
- Map values
- Map keys
- Map master server

NIS+

- NIS+ is a network name service similar to NIS but with more features. NIS+ is not an extension of NIS. It is a new software program
- NIS+ has some major advantages over NIS in:
 - Secure data access
 - Hierarchical and decentralized network administration
 - Very large namespace administration
 - Access to resources across domains
 - Incremental updates

Differences Between NIS and NIS+

NIS

Flat domains--no hierarchy

Data stored in two column maps

Uses no authentication

Single choice of network information source

Updates delayed for batch propagation

NIS+

Hierarchical layout--data stored in different levels in the namespace

Data stored in multicolumn tables

Uses DES authentication

Name service switch--lets client choose information source: NIS, NIS+, DNS, or local /etc files

Incremental updates propagated immediately

Reference

- UNIX System Administration Handbook, Second Edition, by Evi Nemeth *et al*, Prentice Hall PTR, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey 07632
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