

File Timestamps

Every file on Linux has three timestamps:

1. The access timestamp or **atime** is the last time the file was read (**ls -lu**)
2. The modified timestamp or **mtime** is the last time the contents of the file was modified (**ls -l, ls -lt**)
3. The changed timestamp **ctime** is the last time when some metadata related to the file was changed (**ls -lc**)