

# Goaccess

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[Goaccess](#) can monitor a web server's log file in real time. Either by providing output to the console or by creating a static or real-time HTML report.

## 1 Features

- MIT license
- Fast, real-time, millisecond/second updates
- Written in C
- Only `ncurses` as a dependency
- Many weblog formats (Apache, Nginx, Amazon S3, Elastic Load Balancing, Cloud-Front, Caddy, for the latest version. Somewhat less for Debian Buster)
- Beautiful terminal

## 2 Installation

```
aptitude install goaccess
```

## 3 Command Line Usage

The manual page gives a lot of command line options. An easy way to use it is the command line mode, which only uses the log file as a parameter. Preferably this should be run within `screen` or similar to keep it running even if the ssh connection is lost. Restarting is not a problem. Configuration can be done (a) via configuration file and command line option or (b) via interactive setup.

(a)

```
echo 'time-format %T' >> /etc/goaccess.conf
echo 'date-format %d/%b/%Y' >> /etc/goaccess.conf
echo 'log-format %h %^[%d:%t %^] "%r" %s %b "%R" "%u"' >>
  /etc/goaccess.conf
goaccess --log-format=COMBINED access.log
```

(b)

```
cd /var/log/nginx
goaccess access.log
+-----+
| Log Format Configuration |
| [SPACE] to toggle - [ENTER] to proceed - [q]uit |
| |
| [x] NCSA Combined Log Format |
| [ ] NCSA Combined Log Format with Virtual Host |
| [ ] Common Log Format (CLF) |
| [ ] Common Log Format (CLF) with Virtual Host |
| [ ] W3C |
| [ ] Squid Native Format |
| |
| Log Format - [c] to add/edit format |
| |
| Date Format - [d] to add/edit format |
| |
| Time Format - [t] to add/edit format |
```



This will output something like this:

```

1  Dashboard - Overall Analyzed Requests (22/May/2021 - 2[Active Panel:
   Visitors]
2
3  Total Requests 1276 Unique Visitors 283 Unique Files 293 Referrers 0
4  Valid Requests 1274 Init. Proc. Time 1s Static Files 20 Log Size
   444.80 Ki
5  B Failed Requests 2 Excl. IP Hits 0 Unique 404 244 Bandwidth 3.35
   MiB
6  Log Source      access.log
7
8  > 1 - Unique visitors per day - Including spiders              Total:
   1/1
9
10 Hits          h% Vis.      v%   Bandwidth Data
11 -----
12 1274 100.00% 283 100.00%   3.35 MiB 22/May/2021
   |||

```

It is possible to scroll down to see other sections.

```

1  2 - Requested Files (URLs)                                     Total:
   293/293
2
3  Hits          h% Vis.      v%   Bandwidth Mtd Proto  Data
4  -----
5  63  11.39%  43  8.63%  139.10 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /
6  58  10.49%  57 11.45%  286.99 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /testarchiv.example.com/
7  41   7.41%  31  6.22%  198.07 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /testarchiv.example.com/
   News
8  37   6.69%  37  7.43%  458.63 KiB GET HTTP/1.0 /testarchiv.example.com/
9  12   2.17%  12  2.41%  660.88 KiB GET HTTP/1.0 /testarchiv.example.com/
   Test
10 8     1.45%   7  1.41%   34.16 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /testarchiv.example.com/
   Moin
11 7     1.27%   7  1.41%   97.73 KiB GET HTTP/1.0 /testarchiv.example.com/
   News
12
13 3 - Static Requests                                           Total:
   20/20

```

```
14
15 Hits      h% Vis.      v%   Bandwidth Mtd Proto   Data
16 -----
17  5    20.00%    3 13.04%    925.0   B GET HTTP/1.1 /robots.txt
18  2     8.00%    2  8.70%    13.22 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /Xargs-Request-2.1.3.8.tar
19  1     4.00%    1  4.35%    10.55 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /Module-Build-Xargs-5.2.9.
20  1     4.00%    1  4.35%    185.0   B GET HTTP/1.1 /markdown-style.css
21  1     4.00%    1  4.35%    10.69 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /Module-Build-Xargs-7.3.2.
22  1     4.00%    1  4.35%     2.07 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /abc/style.css
23  1     4.00%    1  4.35%     6.76 KiB GET HTTP/1.1 /Xargs-Soft-Simple
    -2.1.3.8.tar
```

## 4 Static HTML Report Usage

Create a static HTML report in a dedicated directory `TEST` :

```
1 cd
2 mkdir TEST
3 cd TEST
4 goaccess /var/log/nginx/access.log -o report.html --log-format=COMBINED
```

This will create the `report.html` file. View it with your browser or create it in a directory served by the web server. For Debian 10 Buster this will be created with missing Unicode characters in Firefox. Other browsers will display them.

## 5 Real Time HTML Report Usage

This section, using the Real-Time HTML Reporting feature, was just a quick test and showed some bugs that would need to be fixed.

```
1 goaccess /var/log/nginx/access.log -o /web/server/root/report.html \
2 --log-format=COMBINED --real-time-html
```

The above command will generate a page under the web server root as well as open a socket for the update. A quick test on Debian 10 Buster shows some problems. The main problem is that the page does not display with Firefox or Chromium. Chromium complains about insecure scripts. After waving the page was displayed. However, this would not be

acceptable as a permanent solution. Firefox received the page with code 200, but failed to load the `favicon.ico` and three `fontawesome` web fonts.

## 6 Links

- [home page](#)

## 7 History

---

Version	Date	Notes
0.1.2	2023-03-14	Improve writing, add command line example
0.1.1	2022-06-28	Grammar, formatting, minor improvements, shell->bash
0.1.0	2021-05-22	Initial release

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## 8 Disclaimer of Warranty

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