

How to Disable a Welcome Message in Ubuntu?

written by sysadmin | 26 July 2025

By default, when you connect to an Ubuntu server using SSH, Ubuntu will display a welcome message. But sometimes, the welcome message is not needed or even annoying, so you want to disable the welcome message.

Problem

How to disable a welcome message in Ubuntu?

Solution

Usually, the welcome message looks like Ubuntu displays information about the Ubuntu server, as shown in the image below:

```
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-63-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Tue Jul 15 01:50:42 PM UTC 2025

System load:  0.0                Processes:           113
Usage of /:   69.0% of 9.75GB    Users logged in:    1
Memory usage: 23%                IPv4 address for enp0s3: 10.0.2.15
Swap usage:   0%

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

177 updates can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Tue Jul 15 13:50:42 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@docker:~$
```



The welcome message in Ubuntu

There are 2 methods to disable the welcome message:

1. Remove the execute

You have to know that the welcome messages are generated by the files residing in **/etc/update-motd.d/**. So, use the command below to disable the welcome message in Ubuntu:

```
sudo chmod -x /etc/update-motd.d/*
```

After you run the above command, every time you access the Ubuntu server, the Ubuntu server does not display a welcome message anymore, but only displays the last login on this server as shown in the image below:

```
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-63-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Tue Jul 15 02:01:19 PM UTC 2025

System load:  0.0                Processes:           111
Usage of /:   69.0% of 9.75GB    Users logged in:    1
Memory usage: 23%                IPv4 address for enp0s3: 10.0.2.15
Swap usage:   0%

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

177 updates can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Tue Jul 15 14:00:15 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@docker:~$ sudo chmod -x /etc/update-motd.d/*
[sudo] password for sysadmin:
sysadmin@docker:~$ exit
logout
Connection to 192.168.56.102 closed.
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Last login: Tue Jul 15 14:01:20 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@docker:~$
```

Disable the welcome message by removing the execute

2. Create a file

The second method is to create an empty file known as **.hushlogin** in your \$HOME directory by using the command below:

```
touch ~/.hushlogin
```

It should be after you do the above command, every time you access the server, the Ubuntu server does not display a welcome message or last login at all, as shown in the image below:

```
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-63-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Tue Jul 15 02:09:21 PM UTC 2025

System load:  0.0                Processes:           111
Usage of /:   69.0% of 9.75GB    Users logged in:    1
Memory usage: 23%               IPv4 address for enp0s3: 10.0.2.15
Swap usage:   0%

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

177 updates can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Tue Jul 15 14:09:22 2025 from 192.168.56.1
sysadmin@docker:~$ touch ~/.hushlogin
sysadmin@docker:~$
sysadmin@docker:~$ exit
logout
Connection to 192.168.56.102 closed.
sysadmin@LinuxMint:~$ ssh sysadmin@192.168.56.102
sysadmin@192.168.56.102's password:
sysadmin@docker:~$
```

Disable the welcome message by creating a file

Note

If you want to return the default welcome message after you

run one of the 2 methods above, then use the command below if you are using the first method:

```
sudo chmod +x /etc/update-motd.d/*
```

And use the command below if you are using the second method:

```
rm ~/.hushlogin
```

The default welcome message in Ubuntu should appear every time you access the Ubuntu server.

References

askubuntu.com

cyberciti.biz