

# Linux

## How do I enable IP forwarding (ip\_forwarding) in Debian Lenny / Etch?

Well first check if it is not yet enabled, you can do that by:

- `cat /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward`

If the result is 0 it is in fact disabled.

To enable it you can do one of the following:

- `sysctl -w net.ipv4.ip_forward=1`
- `echo 1 > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward`

Now it should be enabled. To enable it permanently which is most likely what you want you can edit `/etc/sysctl.conf` with your favourite editor and add the following line:

- `net.ipv4.ip_forward = 1`

and right after you added this, issue the following command:

- `sysctl -p /etc/sysctl.conf`

done!

If you still run on Debian Sarge, you can edit the `/etc/network/options` file and change `ip_forward=no` to `ip_forward=yes`

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Author: n/a

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