

uname command – print Unix system information

uname command is one of the most useful commands when it comes to gathering basic information about your Unix/Linux system. You can use it to find out the hostname of the system you're on, the hardware architectures supported by the currently used kernel and the exact release of your system.

Basic uname usage

uname -n

This command shows you the node (host) name of your system:

```
bash-3.00$ uname -n  
samplehost
```

uname -i

If you're interested in confirming the hardware platform of your system, this is the command to use.

For Linux, it will return **i386** for 32-bit processors or **x86_64** for 64-bit ones. For Solaris, it will confirm the actual server type used:

```
bash-3.00$ uname -i  
SUNW,Sun-Fire-V490
```

Release and version of the Unix kernel

To find out the release and version of your Unix kernel, you need to use **uname -r** and **uname -v**.

uname -r

This allows you to confirm the release of Unix kernel used in your OS.

On Linux, it looks like this:

```
bash-3.00$ uname -r  
2.6.18-8.el5
```

On Solaris, it's much shorter and more meaningful, as it gives you the version of Solaris, and not the kernel (this example is for Solaris 10):

```
bash-3.00$ uname -r  
5.10
```

For the version of Unix kernel, use **uname -v**:

Typical Linux output:

```
bash-3.1$ uname -v  
#1 SMP Fri Jan 26 14:15:14 EST 2007
```

Typical Solaris output:

```
bash-3.00$ uname -v  
Generic_127111-01
```

Common **uname** usage

uname -a

Most usually, you simply use **uname** to output everything it knows about your system.

On Linux it looks like this:

```
bash-3.00$ uname -a  
Linux samplehost 2.6.18-8.el5 #1 SMP Fri Jan 26 14:15:14 EST  
2007 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
```

On Solaris, **uname -a** output should be similar to this:

```
bash-3.00$ uname -a  
SunOS samplehost 5.10 Generic_127111-01 sun4u sparc SUNW,Sun-  
Fire-V490
```

See also:

- [Basic Unix commands](#)
- [Advanced Unix commands](#)
- [Unix Commands](#)
- [Unix System Monitoring Commands](#)
- [How to Find Out RedHat version](#)
- [How to Find the Release Version of your Unix](#)