

## Disable uptime detection from external mashines

With the right tools you can "sniff" the uptime of a linux mashine only by sending and analysing tcp packets. The tool nmap does such a test.

Example output from nmap:

```
Interesting ports on 192.168.70.121:
PORT      STATE SERVICE
80/tcp    open  http
81/tcp    closed hosts2-ns
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 2.4.X|2.5.X
OS details: Linux Kernel 2.4.18 - 2.5.70 (X86)
Uptime 0.667 days (since Thu Oct 21 03:21:03 2004)
```

This uptime statistics can be disabled by running the following command:

```
echo 0>/proc/sys/net/ipv4/tcp_timestamp
```

running nmap after that:

```
...
Running: Linux 2.4.X|2.5.X
OS details: Linux Kernel 2.4.0 - 2.5.20 w/o tcp_timestamps
...
```

You can add that line above to you init script or modify /etc/sysctl.conf and add that line:

```
net.ipv4.tcp_timestamp=0
```