

### DNS Exercise 4.3: Setting up Flexible Logging

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Named logs by default are sent and captured in the `/var/log/syslog` file. Other log messages are by default also sent to the `/var/log/syslog` file. It is possible to change where BIND or named sends its log files. This exercise demonstrates how to change where BIND or named captures its logs.

Edit the `/etc/bind/named.conf.local` file and add the following entries at the end of the file:

```
$ sudo editor /etc/bind/named.conf.local
```

```
logging {
    channel default_log {
        file "/var/log/bind/named.log" versions 3 size 10m;
        print-time yes;
        print-category yes;
        print-severity yes;
        severity info;
    };

    channel xfrs {
        file "/var/log/bind/xfer.log" versions 5 size 5m;
        print-time yes;
        print-category yes;
        print-severity yes;
        severity info;
    };

    channel qrs {
        file "/var/log/bind/queries.log" versions 5 size 5m;
        print-time yes;
        print-category yes;
        print-severity yes;
        severity info;
    };

    category default { default_log; };
    category xfer-in { xfrs; };
    category xfer-out { xfrs; };
    category queries { qrs; };
};
```

\* Create a directory for the logs

```
$ sudo mkdir /var/log/bind
```

```
$ sudo chown bind:bind /var/log/bind
```

\* Reconfigure the BIND/named daemon

```
$ sudo rndc reconfig
```

o Look into the `/var/log/bind` directory, you should see the following files `named.log`, `queries.log` and `xfer.log`.

Now default logging will be to `named.log`, query logs in the `queries.log` file, and zone transfer logs will be in `xfer.log`.