

Time Synchronization Using Cron

Nowadays you can just use [ntp daemon](#). However, I used to use the traditional means to syncing time. This approach was taught to me by Dickson and works on systems other than Ubuntu.

The advantage over the [traditional cron tab](#) approach is,

- Less inconsistency in logs for when there are large time corrections.
- A little processing power and memory, but for a modern server this is negligible.

```
date # determine current timezone
```

If need be change your time zone,

```
sudo dpkg-reconfigure tzdata # sets the timezone
```

Next we make sure the time stays correct.

Make ntpdate Scheduled in the crontab (Scheduled Job):

```
sudo crontab -e
```

At this point you will be asked to choose a default editor. I recommend selecting nano if you are a beginner. You can always change the default editor later with, **select-editor**.

Add to the bottom of the file,

```
# update time and date every morning at 5:00.  
00 05 * * * ntpdate ntp.ubuntu.com pool.ntp.org
```

Hit keys, CTRL-O and Enter (save in nano)

Hit keys, CTRL-X (exit in nano)

Here is another method using a [file creation](#).

Next, verify that the crontab was updated successfully by listing the crontab. (Note: you don't need sudo to do this).

```
crontab -l
```