

# CentOS notes

I still keep forget these things:

## Config Tools

Config utilities are called `system-config-*`, command line variants are suffixed `-tui`.

To enable or disable services, use `ntsysv`.

## Config Files

Besides `resolv.conf` one should edit `/etc/sysconfig/networking/profiles/default/resolv.conf`

## Proxy configuration and optimization for yum

The following examples specify a proxy on 192.168.1.8:3128, please adjust to your environment.

In `/etc/profile.d/proxy.sh` you should have something like:

```
export http_proxy=http://192.168.1.8:3128/
export ftp_proxy=http://192.168.1.8:3128/
export no_proxy=.domain.com
export HTTP_PROXY=http://192.168.1.8:3128/
export FTP_PROXY=http://192.168.1.8:3128/
```

In `/etc/yum.conf` should be:

```
proxy=http://192.168.1.8:3128/
```

To reliably force all your CentOS installations to use the same repository and to prevent them from killing your proxy's effect, hand-maintain your `/etc/yum.repos.d/*.repo` files and have each repository section look like this (kill `mirrorlist=` lines, insert resp. edit the `baseurl=` line):

```
[base]
name=CentOS-$releasever - Base
baseurl=http://mirrors.foo.com/centos/$releasever/os/$basearch/
gpgcheck=1
gpgkey=http://mirror.centos.org/centos/RPM-GPG-KEY-CentOS-5
```

## Mail configuration recommendation for internal hosts

Usually CentOS serves as host system on machines in some kind of DMZ. This prevents cron mails to come through quite reliably ;-(  
I propose these steps to come around this problem:

```
# replace unmanagable sendmail with exim
yum install -y exim
/etc/init.d/sendmail stop
yum remove -y sendmail
# make sure sendmail now points to exim:
sendmail -bV
# make sure /etc/mailname is filled
/bin/hostname -f >/etc/mailname
chmod 0755 /etc/mailname
cat /etc/mailname

# tell exim to use a smart host (see below)
vim /etc/exim/exim.conf
```

In `/etc/exim/exim.conf`, just below begin `smarthosts`, insert something like this:

```
smarthost:
  driver = manualroute
  domains = foo.com : intra.foo.com
  transport = remote_smtp
  route_data = "mx.dmz.intra.foo.com"

# finally start exim
/etc/init.d/exim start
# check if your /etc/aliases matches your wishes
grep ^root /etc/aliases
# eventually make test
echo '* * * * * root /bin/echo "test from cron" && rm /etc/cron.d/mailtest' >/etc/cron.d/mailtest
# voila
```

If your internal MX also runs exim, do not forget to include your DMZ net in `/etc/exim4/local_host_whitelist` and it's `MAIN_RELAY_NETS`.