

# adding date to bash history command

Coming from Solaris to Linux, one thing I've missed for years was that the Linux bash *history* command doesn't show timestamps. Thanks to my colleague, Shinn, I learned about this config settings that can go into `.bashrc` to solve that problem, and add a few other useful settings, as well. In Debian, the (system) file to modify is `/etc/bash.bashrc`, and `/etc/bashrc` in CentOS. Of course, user can modify her/his `.bashrc`.

```
export HISTTIMEFORMAT='%F %T '
```

Before:

```
355 vi .bashrc
356 history
357 history | wc -l
```

After:

```
355 2013-03-15 10:07:03 vi .bashrc
356 2013-03-15 10:07:17 history
357 2013-03-15 10:07:48 history | wc -l
358 2013-03-15 10:13:43 cat .bashrc
359 2013-03-15 10:57:46 exit
360 2013-03-15 13:22:12 history
361 2013-03-15 13:22:35 more .bashrc
```

```
export HISTSIZE=1000
```

 - extends history from the default 500 most recent commands, to 1000.

```
export HISTCONTROL=ignoredups
```

 - removes duplicates from history

```
export HISTCONTROL=ignoreboth
```

 - I'm not sure about this one.

*Please add other config options you find useful.*

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