nmcli NetworkManager CLI

CONCEPTS

A device is a network interface; a connection is a saved profile that can be activated on a device.

Device eth0, wlan0
↓ has
Profile saved settings
↓ up
Active connection running config

Names can be abbreviated: nmcli c s, nmcli d, nmcli d w l.

connection modify writes the saved profile only; run connection up again (or device reapply) to apply it.

STATUS

`nmcli general status`
Show NetworkManager state

`nmcli device status`
List devices and their state

`nmcli device show <ifname>`
Show device details and IP

`nmcli networking connectivity check`
Recheck internet connectivity

`nmcli -t -f RUNNING general`
Is NetworkManager running?

`nmcli monitor`
Watch changes live

WI-FI

`nmcli device wifi list`
List access points

`nmcli device wifi connect <ssid> password <pw>`
Connect to a network

`nmcli --ask device wifi connect <ssid>`
Connect, prompt for password

`nmcli radio wifi off`
Switch Wi-Fi off

`nmcli radio wifi on`
Switch Wi-Fi on

`nmcli device wifi rescan`
Trigger a new scan

WI-FI (cont.)

`nmcli device wifi list --rescan yes`
Rescan, then list

`nmcli device wifi connect <ssid> password <pw> hidden yes`
Join a hidden network

`nmcli device wifi show-password`
Show current SSID and key

`nmcli device wifi hotspot ssid <ssid> password <pw>`
Start a hotspot

CONNECTIONS

`nmcli connection show`
List saved profiles

`nmcli connection show --active`
List active connections

`nmcli connection show <name>`
Show every setting of a profile

`nmcli connection up <name>`
Activate a profile

`nmcli connection down <name>`
Deactivate a profile

`nmcli connection up <name> ifname <ifname>`
Activate on a given device

`nmcli connection delete <name>`
Delete a profile

`nmcli connection reload`
Reread profiles from disk

ADD AND MODIFY

`nmcli connection add type ethernet ifname <ifname> con-name <name>`
Create an Ethernet profile (DHCP)

`nmcli connection add type wifi ifname <ifname> con-name <name> ssid <ssid>`
Create a Wi-Fi profile

`nmcli connection modify <name> connection.autoconnect no`
Stop auto-connecting

ADD AND MODIFY (cont.)

`nmcli connection modify <name> wifi-sec.key-mgmt wpa-psk wifi-sec.psk <pw>`
Set Wi-Fi security

`nmcli connection modify <name> ipv4.method manual ipv4.addresses <ip>/<len> ipv4.gateway <gw>`
Set a static IPv4 address

`nmcli connection modify <name> ipv4.dns "<dns1> <dns2>"`
Set DNS servers

`nmcli connection modify <name> +ipv4.dns <dns>`
Append a DNS server

`nmcli connection modify <name> ipv4.method auto`
Back to DHCP

DEVICES AND SYSTEM

`nmcli device connect <ifname>`
Connect a device

`nmcli device disconnect <ifname>`
Disconnect, block auto-connect

`nmcli device reapply <ifname>`
Apply profile changes live

`nmcli general hostname`
Show the hostname

`nmcli general hostname <name>`
Set the hostname

`nmcli networking off`
Turn off all networking

OUTPUT AND OPTIONS

`nmcli -p <command>`
Pretty output

`nmcli -t -f <fields> <command>`
Terse, selected fields

RECIPES

Join Wi-Fi and check it

```
nmcli radio wifi on
nmcli device wifi list --rescan
yes
nmcli --ask device wifi connect
"MyNet"
nmcli connection show --active
```