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BRCTL is used to create a bridge between two interfaces.

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## Bridges

### View

To view the current bridges, use the following command on a [SSH/Telnet terminal](#):

```
brctl show
```

The command will then output a bridge name (Often br0 or br1), bridge ID (Used to uniquely specify the bridge), and the current settings for STP (Spanning Tree Protocol). The output will be formatted similar to this:

```
bridge name      bridge id          STP enabled
br0              8000.001217318d3e  yes
```

### Add

A bridge can be added using the following command, with <name> being replaced with the name of the bridge being replaced.

```
brctl addbr <name>
```

## Delete

Where name is the user specified name of the bridge. To delete a bridge, one would use

```
brctl delbr <name>
```

## Interfaces

Although the preceding commands simply create an instance of a bridge, in order to use them, one must add interfaces to a bridge. The bridge "br0" is standard bridge on DD-WRT.

## Show

In order to show the current interfaces that are members of a bridge, we use a command similar to the "show" command:

```
brctl showbr br0 (for V23SP2: brctl showstp br0)
```

This would generate output similar to the following:

```
br0
  bridge id          8000.001217318d3e
  designated root    8000.001217318d3e
  root port          0
  max age             20.00
  hello time          2.00
  forward delay       0.00
  ageing time         42.30
  hello timer         1.28
  topology change timer 0.00
  path cost           0
  bridge max age     20.00
  bridge hello time  2.00
  bridge forward delay 0.00
  gc interval         4.00
  tcn timer           0.00
  gc timer            2.02
  flags

vlan0 (1)
  port id            8001
  designated root    8000.001217318d3e
  designated bridge  8000.001217318d3e
  designated port    8001
  designated cost     0
  state              forwarding
  path cost          100
  message age timer  0.00
  forward delay timer 0.00
  hold timer         0.00
  flags

eth1 (2)
  port id            8002
  designated root    8000.001217318d3e
  designated bridge  8000.001217318d3e
  designated port    8002
  designated cost     0
  state              forwarding
  path cost          100
  message age timer  0.00
  forward delay timer 0.00
  hold timer         0.00
  flags
```

Here we can see that the bridge contains two members, eth1 and vlan0.

## Add

To add a interface to a bridge, the command syntax is

```
brctl addif <brname> <ifname>
```

Where <brname> is the existing bridge name, and ifname is the interface you want to add.

## Remove

To remove a interface from a bridge, the syntax is very similar

```
brctl delif <brname> <ifname>
```

## Other Features

There are a few other features that brctl offers, but they are beyond the scope of this page. In order to get a better understanding of them, you should read the [brctl Manual Page](#).

**One KEY thing to note is that the brctl commands slightly differ from the man page. Especially the "show" command. The documentation that i suggested recommends "brctl show <brname>" but in DD-WRT the proper syntax is "brctl showbr <brname>". If you have any doubts, simply type "brctl" and a list of available commands will be displayed.**

## External Links

<http://www.tinc-vpn.org/examples/bridging>  
[http://linuxcommand.org/man\\_pages/brctl8.html](http://linuxcommand.org/man_pages/brctl8.html)