Fix TAB sorting without changing player name prefixes

A staff prefix can look correct while the list order remains wrong. Sorting and formatting use related data but deserve separate tests before you rewrite group names or duplicate ranks.

Prepare the test

Record which server owns TAB before changing its files. A proxy deployment can use different permission checks and command names from a backend deployment; edit the instance players actually see.

Make the change

1. Choose test accounts representing each intended sort group. Write the desired order and record the current order with the same players online to avoid confusing roster changes with a configuration fix.
2. Check the renderer’s sorting guide and group resolution results. Confirm that the configured group names match what TAB resolves, including case and any fallback group.
3. Change one documented sorting rule on a copied configuration while retaining the existing prefix and suffix text. Test accounts with the same rank as well as accounts in different ranks.
4. Observe the list after reconnecting and switching backends if applicable. Compare alphabetical or placeholder tie-break behaviour only after the primary rank order matches the written plan.

Check the result

Players should appear in the planned order while their visible text remains unchanged. Include a pair with equal rank so the final tie-break behaviour is deliberate and repeatable.

If the test fails

Restore the previous sorting rule if unrelated players move into the wrong category. Diagnose the group input or conflicting team owner before changing the permission hierarchy itself.

Only one scoreboard team can own a player’s team properties at a time. Check for another team-management plugin when order or nametags flicker.

References and related help

Check the official TAB documentation against your installed release before using a command or setting from another version.

- Configure a Minecraft TAB list and scoreboard
- Find Minecraft logs and send useful troubleshooting details

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