

**NAME**

systemd.slice – Slice unit configuration

**SYNOPSIS**

*slice.slice*

**DESCRIPTION**

A unit configuration file whose name ends in ".slice" encodes information about a slice unit. A slice unit is a concept for hierarchically managing resources of a group of processes. This management is performed by creating a node in the Linux Control Group (cgroup) tree. Units that manage processes (primarily scope and service units) may be assigned to a specific slice. For each slice, certain resource limits may be set that apply to all processes of all units contained in that slice. Slices are organized hierarchically in a tree. The name of the slice encodes the location in the tree. The name consists of a dash-separated series of names, which describes the path to the slice from the root slice. The root slice is named `-.slice`. Example: `foo-bar.slice` is a slice that is located within `foo.slice`, which in turn is located in the root slice `-.slice`.

Note that slice units cannot be templated, nor is possible to add multiple names to a slice unit by creating additional symlinks to its unit file.

By default, service and scope units are placed in `system.slice`, virtual machines and containers registered with **systemd-machined**(1) are found in `machine.slice`, and user sessions handled by **systemd-logind**(1) in `user.slice`. See **systemd.special**(5) for more information.

See **systemd.unit**(5) for the common options of all unit configuration files. The common configuration items are configured in the generic [Unit] and [Install] sections. The slice specific configuration options are configured in the [Slice] section. Currently, only generic resource control settings as described in **systemd.resource-control**(5) are allowed.

See the [New Control Group Interfaces](#)<sup>[1]</sup> for an introduction on how to make use of slice units from programs.

**AUTOMATIC DEPENDENCIES****Implicit Dependencies**

The following dependencies are implicitly added:

- Slice units automatically gain dependencies of type *After=* and *Requires=* on their immediate parent slice unit.

**Default Dependencies**

The following dependencies are added unless *DefaultDependencies=no* is set:

- Slice units will automatically have dependencies of type *Conflicts=* and *Before=* on `shutdown.target`. These ensure that slice units are removed prior to system shutdown. Only slice units involved with late system shutdown should disable *DefaultDependencies=* option.

**SEE ALSO**

**systemd**(1), **systemd.unit**(5), **systemd.resource-control**(5), **systemd.service**(5), **systemd.scope**(5), **systemd.special**(7), **systemd.directives**(7)

**NOTES**

1. New Control Group Interfaces  
<https://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/ControlGroupInterface/>