

**NAME**

initramfs.conf – configuration file for mkinitramfs

**DESCRIPTION**

The behaviour of **mkinitramfs** can be modified by its configuration file.

Each line in the file can be a configuration variable, a blank line, or a comment. The value of an variable is assigned by an statement of the form: *name*=[*value*]

Configuration options can be broken out into configuration snippets and placed in individual files in the */etc/initramfs-tools/conf.d* directory. Files in this directory are always read **after** the main configuration file, so you can override the settings in the main config file without editing it directly.

**GENERAL VARIABLES****MODULES**

Specifies the modules for the initramfs image.

Modules listed in */etc/initramfs-tools/modules* and */usr/share/initramfs-tools/modules.d/\** are always included in the initramfs, and are loaded early in the boot process.

*list* doesn't load any additional modules at boot time, other than those listed in the above files.

*most* adds most file system, all ata, sata, scsi and usb drivers.

*dep* tries to guess which modules are necessary for the running box and only adds those modules.

*netboot* adds the base and network modules, but skips block devices.

The default setting is *most*.

**BUSYBOX**

Include busybox utilities for the boot scripts. If set to 'n' **mkinitramfs** will build an initramfs without busybox. Beware that many boot scripts need busybox utilities.

**COMPCACHE\_SIZE**

Amount of RAM to use for RAM-based compressed swap space. The default is not to use compcache.

An empty value – compcache isn't used, or added to the initramfs at all.

An integer and K (e.g. *65536 K*) – use a number of kilobytes.

An integer and M (e.g. *256 M*) – use a number of megabytes.

An integer and G (e.g. *1 G*) – use a number of gigabytes.

An integer and % (e.g. *50 %*) – use a percentage of the amount of RAM.

You can optionally install the *compcache* package to configure this setting via debconf and have userspace scripts to load and unload compcache.

**COMPRESS**

Specifies the compression method used for the initramfs image. **mkinitramfs** will default to *gzip* if the kernel lacks support (`CONFIG_RD`) or the corresponding userspace utility is not present.

**UMASK**

Set the umask value of the generated initramfs file. Useful to not disclose eventual keys.

**BOOT** Allows one to use an nfs drive as the root of the drive. The default is to boot from *local* media (hard drive, USB stick). Set to *nfs* for an NFS root share.

**RUNSIZE**

The size of the */run* tmpfs mount point in bytes (suffixes are supported) or as percentage of your physical RAM. This parameter is used as the value of the size mount option to tmpfs. See <https://www.kernel.org/doc/Documentation/filesystems/tmpfs.txt> for details. Can be overridden by an optional **initramfs.runsize=** bootarg. The default is 10%.

**VARIABLES FOR LOCAL BOOT****RESUME**

Specifies the device used for suspend-to-disk (hibernation), which the initramfs code should attempt to resume from. If this is not defined or is set to *auto*, **mkinitramfs** will automatically select the largest available swap partition. Set it to *none* to disable resume from disk.

**VARIABLES FOR NFS BOOT****DEVICE**

Specifies the default network interface to use, like *eth0*. The *ip* or *BOOTIF* bootargs may override this.

**VLAN** Specifies the VLAN tag id to setup, e.g. *VLAN=eth0.1:eth0*. The *vlan* bootarg may override this.

**ROOT**

Allows optional root bootarg hardcoding, when no root bootarg can be passed. A root bootarg overrides that special setting.

**NFSROOT**

Defaults to *auto* in order to pick up value from DHCP server. Otherwise you need to specify *HOST:MOUNT*.

**FILES**

*/etc/initramfs-tools/initramfs.conf*

**AUTHOR**

The initramfs-tools are written by Maximilian Attems <maks@debian.org>, Jeff Bailey <jbailey@raspberrypi.com> and numerous others. Loosely based on mkinitrd.conf by Herbert Xu.

**SEE ALSO**

*initramfs-tools(7)*, *mkinitramfs(8)*, *update-initramfs(8)*.