

## NAME

.k5identity – Kerberos V5 client principal selection rules

## DESCRIPTION

The **.k5identity** file, which resides in a user's home directory, contains a list of rules for selecting a client principals based on the server being accessed. These rules are used to choose a credential cache within the cache collection when possible.

Blank lines and lines beginning with '#' are ignored. Each line has the form:

*principal field=value ...*

If the server principal meets all of the *field* constraints, then *principal* is chosen as the client principal. The following fields are recognized:

**realm** If the realm of the server principal is known, it is matched against *value*, which may be a pattern using shell wildcards. For host-based server principals, the realm will generally only be known if there is a domain\_realm section in krb5.conf with a mapping for the hostname.

**service** If the server principal is a host-based principal, its service component is matched against *value*, which may be a pattern using shell wildcards.

**host** If the server principal is a host-based principal, its hostname component is converted to lower case and matched against *value*, which may be a pattern using shell wildcards.

If the server principal matches the constraints of multiple lines in the **.k5identity** file, the principal from the first matching line is used. If no line matches, credentials will be selected some other way, such as the realm heuristic or the current primary cache.

## EXAMPLE

The following example **.k5identity** file selects the client principal `alice@KRBTEST.COM` if the server principal is within that realm, the principal `alice/root@EXAMPLE.COM` if the server host is within a servers subdomain, and the principal `alice/mail@EXAMPLE.COM` when accessing the IMAP service on `mail.example.com`.

```
alice@KRBTEST.COM    realm=KRBTEST.COM
alice/root@EXAMPLE.COM host=*.servers.example.com
alice/mail@EXAMPLE.COM host=mail.example.com service=imap
```

## SEE ALSO

kerberos(1), krb5.conf(5)