



Process Management



Prabhjeet Singh

Process Management

1. PS command – print all the current process on the machine

NAME

ps - report a snapshot of the current processes.

SYNOPSIS

ps [options]

DESCRIPTION

ps displays information about a selection of the active processes. If you want a repetitive update of the selection and the displayed information, use top instead.

This version of ps accepts several kinds of options:

- 1 UNIX options, which may be grouped and must be preceded by a dash.
- 2 BSD options, which may be grouped and must not be used with a dash.
- 3 GNU long options, which are preceded by two dashes.

Options of different types may be freely mixed, but conflicts can appear. There are some synonymous options, which are functionally identical, due to the many standards and ps implementations that this ps is compatible with.

Note that ps -aux is distinct from ps aux. The POSIX and UNIX standards require that ps -aux print all processes owned by a user named x, as well as printing all processes that would be selected by the -a option. If the user named x does not exist, this ps may interpret the command as ps aux instead and print a warning. This behavior is intended to aid in transitioning old scripts and habits. It is fragile, subject to change, and thus should not be relied upon.

By default, ps selects all processes with the same effective user ID (euid=EUID) as the current user and associated with the same terminal as the invoker. It displays the process ID (pid=PID), the terminal associated with the process (tname=TTY), the cumulated CPU time in [DD-]hh:mm:ss format (time=TIME), and the executable name (ucmd=CMD). Output is unsorted by default.

The use of BSD-style options will add process state (stat=STAT) to the default display and show the command args (args=COMMAND) instead of the executable name. You can override this with the PS_FORMAT environment variable. The use of BSD-style options will also change the process selection to include processes on other terminals (TTYs) that are owned by you; alternately, this may be described as setting the selection to be the set of all processes filtered to exclude processes owned by other users or not on a terminal. These effects are not considered when options are described as being "identical" below, so -M will be considered identical to Z and so on.

Except as described below, process selection options are additive. The default selection is discarded, and then the selected processes are added to the set of processes to be displayed. A process will thus be shown if it meets any of the given selection criteria.

EXAMPLES

To see every process on the system using standard syntax:

```
ps -e
ps -ef
ps -eF
ps -ely
```

To see every process on the system using BSD syntax:

```
ps ax
ps axu
```

To print a process tree:

```
ps -ejH
ps axjf
```

To get info about threads:

```
ps -eLf
ps axms
```

To get security info:

```
ps -eo euser,ruser,suser,fuser,f,comm,label
ps axZ
ps -eM
```

To see every process running as root (real & effective ID) in user format:

```
ps -U root -u root u
```

To see every process with a user-defined format:

```
ps -eo pid,tid,class,rtprio,ni,pri,psr,pcpu,stat,wchan:14,comm
ps axo stat,euid,ruid,tt,tpgid,sess,pgrp,ppid,pid,pcpu,comm
ps -Ao pid,tt,user,fname,tmout,f,wchan
```

Print only the process IDs of syslogd:

`ps -C syslogd -o pid=`

Print only the name of PID 42:

`ps -q 42 -o comm=`

\$ ps → it is for the current user only

| PID | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|-------|-------|----------|------|
| 1347 | pts/0 | 00:00:28 | zsh |
| 33791 | pts/0 | 00:00:00 | zsh |
| 33808 | pts/0 | 00:00:00 | bash |
| 39634 | pts/0 | 00:00:00 | ps |

└─\$ ps ax | head -> BSD format

| PID | TTY | STAT | TIME | COMMAND |
|------|-----|------|------|-------------------------------|
| 1 ? | | Ss | 0:16 | /sbin/init splash |
| 2 ? | | S | 0:00 | [kthreadd] |
| 3 ? | | I< | 0:00 | [rcu_gp] |
| 4 ? | | I< | 0:00 | [rcu_par_gp] |
| 6 ? | | I< | 0:00 | [kworker/0:0H-events_highpri] |
| 8 ? | | I< | 0:00 | [mm_percpu_wq] |
| 9 ? | | S | 0:00 | [rcu_tasks_rude_] |
| 10 ? | | S | 0:00 | [rcu_tasks_trace] |
| 11 ? | | S | 0:00 | [ksoftirqd/0] |

\$ ps -e | head →

| PID | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|-----|-----|----------|-----------------------------|
| 1 ? | | 00:00:16 | systemd |
| 2 ? | | 00:00:00 | kthreadd |
| 3 ? | | 00:00:00 | rcu_gp |
| 4 ? | | 00:00:00 | rcu_par_gp |
| 6 ? | | 00:00:00 | kworker/0:0H-events_highpri |
| 8 ? | | 00:00:00 | mm_percpu_wq |
| 9 ? | | 00:00:00 | rcu_tasks_rude_ |

```
10 ?    00:00:00 rcu_tasks_trace
11 ?    00:00:00 ksoftirqd/0
```

\$ ps aux | head

| USER | PID | %CPU | %MEM | VSZ | RSS | TTY | STAT | START | TIME | COMMAND |
|------|-----|------|------|--------|-------|-----|------|-------|------|-------------------------------|
| root | 1 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 164356 | 10692 | ? | Ss | Aug31 | 0:16 | /sbin/init splash |
| root | 2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [kthreadd] |
| root | 3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_gp] |
| root | 4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_par_gp] |
| root | 6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [kworker/0:0H-events_highpri] |
| root | 8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [mm_percpu_wq] |
| root | 9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_tasks_rude_] |
| root | 10 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_tasks_trace] |
| root | 11 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [ksoftirqd/0] |

\$ ps -ef | head

→ this is for unix

| UID | PID | PPID | C | STIME | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|------|-----|------|---|-------|-----|----------|-------------------------------|
| root | 1 | 0 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:16 | /sbin/init splash |
| root | 2 | 0 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [kthreadd] |
| root | 3 | 2 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [rcu_gp] |
| root | 4 | 2 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [rcu_par_gp] |
| root | 6 | 2 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [kworker/0:0H-events_highpri] |
| root | 8 | 2 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [mm_percpu_wq] |
| root | 9 | 2 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [rcu_tasks_rude_] |
| root | 10 | 2 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [rcu_tasks_trace] |
| root | 11 | 2 | 0 | Aug31 | ? | 00:00:00 | [ksoftirqd/0] |

TTY – terminal used to control the process

PPID – parent process ID

PID – process ID

UID – User who initiated process

C – CPU usage

STIME – start time of the process

TIME – time of CPU used.

CMD – command that started the process.

\$ ps -U root -u root u → To see every process running as root (real & effective ID) in user

Format.

| USER | PID | %CPU | %MEM | VSZ | RSS | TTY | STAT | START | TIME | COMMAND |
|------|-----|------|------|--------|-------|-----|------|-------|------|-------------------------------|
| root | 1 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 164356 | 10692 | ? | Ss | Aug31 | 0:16 | /sbin/init splash |
| root | 2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [kthreadd] |
| root | 3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_gp] |
| root | 4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_par_gp] |
| root | 6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [kworker/0:0H-events_highpri] |
| root | 8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I< | Aug31 | 0:00 | [mm_percpu_wq] |
| root | 9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_tasks_rude_] |
| root | 10 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [rcu_tasks_trace] |
| root | 11 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [ksoftirqd/0] |
| root | 12 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | I | Aug31 | 0:09 | [rcu_sched] |
| root | 13 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:01 | [migration/0] |
| root | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | ? | S | Aug31 | 0:00 | [cpuhp/0] |

\$ ps -eH | head → -e to show processes for the all the user.,

H -> To show processes hierarchically.

| PID | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|-----|-----|----------|-----------------------------|
| 2 | ? | 00:00:00 | kthreadd |
| 3 | ? | 00:00:00 | rcu_gp |
| 4 | ? | 00:00:00 | rcu_par_gp |
| 6 | ? | 00:00:00 | kworker/0:0H-events_highpri |
| 8 | ? | 00:00:00 | mm_percpu_wq |
| 9 | ? | 00:00:00 | rcu_tasks_rude_ |
| 10 | ? | 00:00:00 | rcu_tasks_trace |
| 11 | ? | 00:00:00 | ksoftirqd/0 |
| 12 | ? | 00:00:09 | rcu_sched |
| 1 | ? | 00:00:16 | systemd |
| 276 | ? | 00:00:09 | systemd-journal |
| 302 | ? | 00:00:00 | vmware-vmblock- |
| 306 | ? | 00:00:01 | systemd-udev |
| 426 | ? | 00:00:06 | haveged |

```

429 ?    00:07:19  vmtoolsd
460 ?    00:00:00  cron
461 ?    00:00:18  dbus-daemon
463 ?    00:00:10  NetworkManager
473 ?    00:00:15  polkitd
476 ?    00:00:00  rsyslogd
479 ?    00:00:02  systemd-logind
568 ?    00:00:00  ModemManager
574 ?    00:03:45  containerd
575 ?    00:00:00  lightdm
593 tty7  00:03:59  Xorg
993 ?    00:00:00  lightdm
1029 ?    00:00:00  xfce4-session
1077 ?    00:00:00  ssh-agent
1114 ?    00:00:21  xfwm4
1130 ?    00:00:02  xfsettingsd
1138 ?    00:00:10  xfce4-panel
1148 ?    00:00:07  panel-1-whisker
1152 ?    00:00:01  panel-16-systra
1153 ?    00:02:14  panel-17-pulsea

```

\$ pstree - To display parent and child processes in a tree.

```

systemd└─ModemManager─2*[{ModemManager}]
      │
      ├─NetworkManager─2*[{NetworkManager}]
      │
      ├─agetty
      │
      ├─blueman-tray─2*[{blueman-tray}]
      │
      ├─colord─2*[{colord}]
      │
      ├─containerd─10*[{containerd}]
      │
      ├─cron
      │
      ├─dbus-daemon
      │
      ├─dockerd─9*[{dockerd}]
      │
      ├─haveged
      │
      ├─lightdm└─Xorg─{Xorg}
      │
      │   └─lightdm└─xfce4-session└─Thunar─2*[{Thunar}]
      │   │   │   │   │
      │   │   │   │   └─agent─2*[{agent}]
      │   │   │   │
      │   │   │   └─blueman-applet─3*[{blueman-applet}]

```

```
| | | ⊢light-locker—3*[{light-locker}]
| | | ⊢nm-applet—3*[{nm-applet}]
| | | ⊢polkit-gnome-au—2*[{polkit-gnome-au}]
| | | ⊢ssh-agent
| | | ⊢xfce4-panel⊣panel-1-whisker—2*[{panel-1-whisker}]
| | | | ⊢panel-16-systra—2*[{panel-16-systra}]
| | | | ⊢panel-17-pulsea—2*[{panel-17-pulsea}]
| | | | ⊢panel-18-notifi—2*[{panel-18-notifi}]
| | | | ⊢panel-19-power—2*[{panel-19-power-}]
| | | | ⊢panel-21-action—2*[{panel-21-action}]
| | | | ⊣2*[{xfce4-panel}]
| | | ⊢xfce4-power-man—2*[{xfce4-power-man}]
| | | ⊢xfdesktop—2*[{xfdesktop}]
| | | ⊢xfsettingsd—2*[{xfsettingsd}]
| | | ⊢xfwm4—2*[{xfwm4}]
| | | ⊢xicedd—2*[{xicedd}]
| | | ⊣2*[{xfce4-session}]
| | ⊣2*[{lightdm}]
| ⊣2*[{lightdm}]
⊢polkitd—2*[{polkitd}]
⊢qterminal⊣zsh—zsh—bash—pstree
| ⊣2*[{qterminal}]
⊢rsyslogd—3*[{rsyslogd}]
⊢rtkit-daemon—2*[{rtkit-daemon}]
⊢systemd⊣(sd-pam)
| | ⊢at-spi-bus-laun⊣dbus-daemon
| | ⊣3*[{at-spi-bus-laun}]
| | ⊢at-spi2-registr—2*[{at-spi2-registr}]
| | ⊢dbus-daemon
| | ⊢dconf-service—2*[{dconf-service}]
| | ⊢gnome-keyring-d—3*[{gnome-keyring-d}]
| | ⊢gpg-agent
| | ⊢gvfs-afc-volume—3*[{gvfs-afc-volume}]
| | ⊢gvfs-go-a-volume—2*[{gvfs-go-a-volume}]
| | ⊢gvfs-gphoto2-vo—2*[{gvfs-gphoto2-vo}]
| | ⊢gvfs-mtp-volume—2*[{gvfs-mtp-volume}]
```



```

|   ├──gvfs-udisks2-vo──3*[{gvfs-udisks2-vo}]
|   ├──gvfsd└──gvfsd-trash──2*[{gvfsd-trash}]
|   │   └──2*[{gvfsd}]
|   ├──gvfsd-fuse──6*[{gvfsd-fuse}]
|   ├──gvfsd-metadata──2*[{gvfsd-metadata}]
|   ├──obexd
|   ├──pipewire──{pipewire}
|   ├──pipewire-media──{pipewire-media-}
|   ├──pulseaudio──2*[{pulseaudio}]
|   ├──xfce4-notifyd──2*[{xfce4-notifyd}]
|   └──xfconfd──2*[{xfconfd}]
└──systemd-journal
└──systemd-logind
└──systemd-udev
└──udisksd──4*[{udisksd}]
└──upowerd──2*[{upowerd}]
└──vmtoolsd──2*[{vmtoolsd}]
└──vmtoolsd──3*[{vmtoolsd}]
└──vmware-vmblock──2*[{vmware-vmblock-}]
└──xcapex──{xcapex}

```

\$top → to give information about CPU usages by each process dynamically.

top - 07:20:06 up 1 day, 22:29, 1 user, load average: 0.02, 0.01, 0.00

Tasks: 193 total, 1 running, 192 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie

%Cpu(s): 0.6 us, 0.3 sy, 0.0 ni, 99.0 id, 0.1 wa, 0.0 hi, 0.0 si, 0.0 st

MiB Mem : 1975.2 total, 163.4 free, 628.4 used, 1183.4 buff/cache

MiB Swap: 975.0 total, 944.7 free, 30.3 used. 1139.2 avail Mem

| PID | USER | PR | NI | VIRT | RES | SHR | S | %CPU | %MEM | TIME+ | COMMAND |
|------|------|----|----|---------|--------|-------|---|------|------|---------|------------|
| 593 | root | 20 | 0 | 460832 | 152124 | 59276 | S | 3.0 | 7.5 | 4:04.44 | Xorg |
| 1344 | kali | 20 | 0 | 412652 | 73972 | 61736 | S | 1.3 | 3.7 | 0:49.96 | qterminal |
| 1114 | kali | 20 | 0 | 406576 | 75056 | 55200 | S | 0.7 | 3.7 | 0:21.87 | xfwm4 |
| 426 | root | 20 | 0 | 8164 | 5272 | 1728 | S | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0:06.58 | haveged |
| 429 | root | 20 | 0 | 237864 | 9092 | 5800 | S | 0.3 | 0.4 | 7:20.29 | vmtoolsd |
| 574 | root | 20 | 0 | 1489536 | 49588 | 28512 | S | 0.3 | 2.5 | 3:46.19 | containerd |

```

1153 kali  20  0 511376 33404 25384 S  0.3  1.7  2:14.30 panel-17-pulsea
1200 kali  20  0 292380 32344 22984 S  0.3  1.6  7:24.97 vmttoolsd
39736 kali 20  0 10304  3756  3236 R  0.3  0.2  0:00.03 top

  1 root   20  0 164356 10692  7908 S  0.0  0.5  0:16.90 systemd
  2 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.19 kthreadd
  3 root    0 -20    0    0    0 I  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 rcu_gp
  4 root    0 -20    0    0    0 I  0.0  0.0  0:00.11 rcu_par_gp
  6 root    0 -20    0    0    0 I  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 kworker/0:0H-events_highpri
  8 root    0 -20    0    0    0 I  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 mm_percpu_wq
  9 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 rcu_tasks_rude_
10 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 rcu_tasks_trace
11 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.33 ksoftirqd/0
12 root   20  0    0    0    0 I  0.0  0.0  0:09.47 rcu_sched
13 root   rt  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:01.08 migration/0
15 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 cpuhp/0
16 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 cpuhp/1
17 root   rt  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:01.17 migration/1
18 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.30 ksoftirqd/1
20 root    0 -20    0    0    0 I  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 kworker/1:0H-events_highpri
21 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.00 cpuhp/2
22 root   rt  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:01.17 migration/2
23 root   20  0    0    0    0 S  0.0  0.0  0:00.61 ksoftirqd/2

```

Foreground and Background Processes.

In Linux, only one process will be running at a time in foreground. But we can multiple background process running at the same time.

\$ xeyes

ls

here xeyes is running now so 'ls' won't give any result.

To run a process in the background use &

—\$ xeyes &

[1] 39750

└─\$ ls

all.txt dir_list.txt file file1_soft.txt file2.txt 'file space.txt' location.txt my_dir2 zip__backup.zip
combine1.txt errors.txt file1_hard.txt file1.txt file3.txt 'file space.txt' my_dir1 space.txt

Suspend/stop the process using ctrl+z.

\$job → To see the suspended process.

\$ fg → to show foreground processes.

\$ bg → to show background processes.

\$ xeyes

^Z

[3]+ Stopped xeyes

└─\$ jobs

[1] Running xeyes &

[2]- Running xeyes &

[3]+ Stopped xeyes

└─\$ fg

xeyes

^Z

[3]+ Stopped xeyes

└─\$ bg

[3]+ xeyes &

└─\$ jobs

[1] Running xeyes &

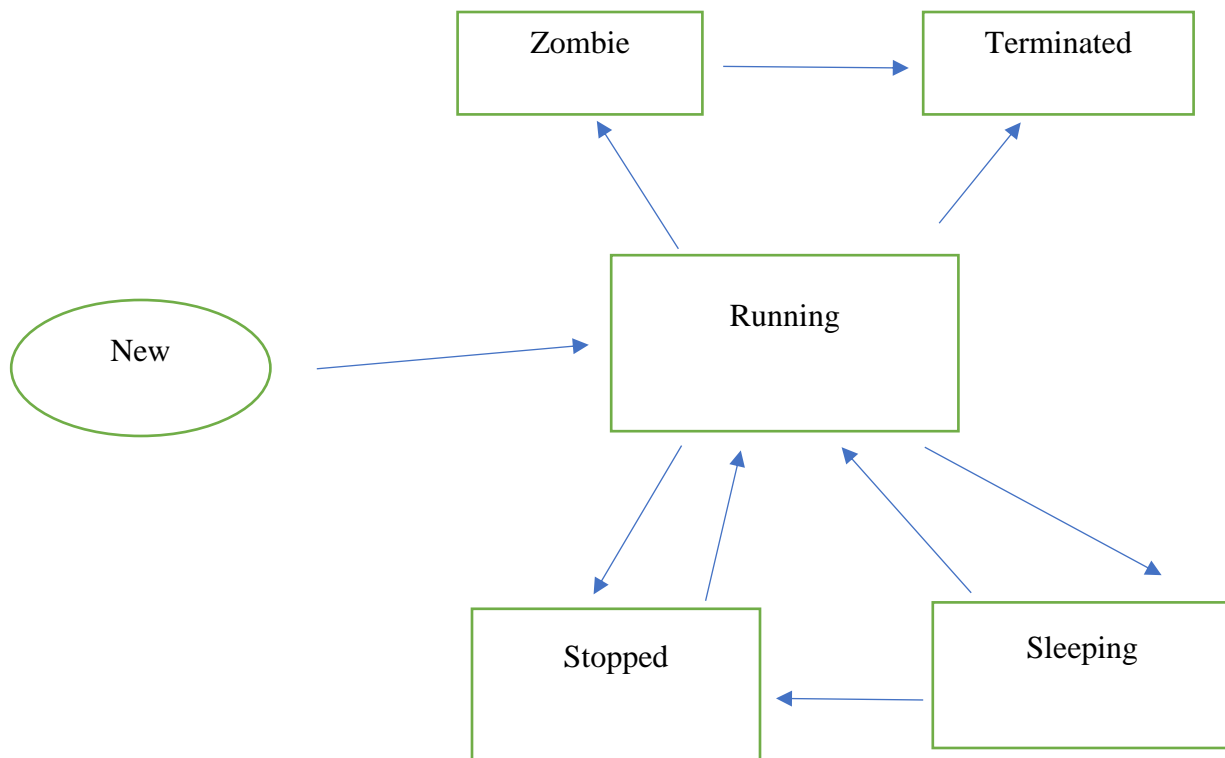
[2]- Running xeyes &

[3]+ Running xeyes &

\$ xclock → to show clock

Managing Processes.

Processes states



Zombie – processes which are not cleaned properly

Sleeping - processes waiting for the resources.

kill command- send a signal to a process.

`kill [options] <pid> [...]`

The default signal for kill is TERM. Use -l or -L to list available signals. Particularly useful signals include HUP, INT, KILL, STOP, CONT, and 0. Alternate signals may be specified in three ways: -9, -SIGKILL or -KILL. Negative PID values may be used to choose whole process groups; see the PGID column in ps command output. A PID of -1 is special; it indicates all processes except the kill process itself and init.

—\$ kill -l → different options/signal , kill command can send

1) SIGHUP 2) SIGINT 3) SIGQUIT 4) SIGILL 5) SIGTRAP
6) SIGABRT 7) SIGBUS 8) SIGFPE 9) SIGKILL 10) SIGUSR1
11) SIGSEGV 12) SIGUSR2 13) SIGPIPE 14) SIGALRM 15) SIGTERM
16) SIGSTKFLT 17) SIGCHLD 18) SIGCONT 19) SIGSTOP 20) SIGTSTP
21) SIGTTIN 22) SIGTTOU 23) SIGURG 24) SIGXCPU 25) SIGXFSZ
26) SIGVTALRM 27) SIGPROF 28) SIGWINCH 29) SIGIO 30) SIGPWR
31) SIGSYS 34) SIGRTMIN 35) SIGRTMIN+1 36) SIGRTMIN+2 37) SIGRTMIN+3
38) SIGRTMIN+4 39) SIGRTMIN+5 40) SIGRTMIN+6 41) SIGRTMIN+7 42) SIGRTMIN+8
43) SIGRTMIN+9 44) SIGRTMIN+10 45) SIGRTMIN+11 46) SIGRTMIN+12 47) SIGRTMIN+13
48) SIGRTMIN+14 49) SIGRTMIN+15 50) SIGRTMAX-14 51) SIGRTMAX-13 52) SIGRTMAX-12
53) SIGRTMAX-11 54) SIGRTMAX-10 55) SIGRTMAX-9 56) SIGRTMAX-8 57) SIGRTMAX-7
58) SIGRTMAX-6 59) SIGRTMAX-5 60) SIGRTMAX-4 61) SIGRTMAX-3 62) SIGRTMAX-2
63) SIGRTMAX-1 64) SIGRTMAX

\$ kill <psid>

\$ kill 39769

\$ ps -ef | grep xeyes → find the pid.

```
kali 39750 33808 0 07:27 pts/0 00:00:03 xeyes
kali 39769 33808 0 07:35 pts/0 00:00:02 xeyes
kali 40010 33808 0 08:12 pts/0 00:00:00 grep --color=auto xeyes
```

└─\$ kill -9 39750 → send sigkill signal to the process

└─\$ ps -ef | grep xeyes

```
kali 39769 33808 0 07:35 pts/0 00:00:02 xeyes
kali 40013 33808 0 08:14 pts/0 00:00:00 grep --color=auto xeyes
[1]- Killed xeyes
```

\$ pkill xeyes -→ to kill all the xeyes processes in one go.

NAME

pgrep, pkill, pidwait - look up, signal, or wait for processes based on name and other attributes

SYNOPSIS

pgrep [options] pattern

pkill [options] pattern

pidwait [options] pattern

DESCRIPTION

pgrep looks through the currently running processes and lists the process IDs which match the selection criteria to stdout. All the criteria have to match. For example,

\$ pgrep -u root sshd

will only list the processes called sshd AND owned by root. On the other hand,

\$ pgrep -u root,daemon

will list the processes owned by root OR daemon.

pkill will send the specified signal (by default SIGTERM) to each process instead of listing them on stdout.

pidwait will wait for each process instead of listing them on stdout.

\$ sleep 5 -> delay the script for 5 seconds or wait for 5 seconds.

Scheduling process with cron tab and init.d

Process can be scheduled to execute at a specific time using cron.

There are 2 types of cron tab file

1. Located in the directory /etc/crontab – system level

\$ less /etc/crontab

```
# /etc/crontab: system-wide crontab
# Unlike any other crontab you don't have to run the `crontab'
# command to install the new version when you edit this file
# and files in /etc/cron.d. These files also have username fields,
# that none of the other crontabs do.

SHELL=/bin/sh
PATH=/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin

# Example of job definition:
# .----- minute (0 - 59)
# | .----- hour (0 - 23)
# | | .----- day of month (1 - 31)
# | | | .----- month (1 - 12) OR jan,feb,mar,apr ...
# | | | | .---- day of week (0 - 6) (Sunday=0 or 7) OR sun,mon,tue,wed,thu,fri,sat
# | | | | |
# * * * * * user-name command to be executed
17 * * * * root cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.hourly
25 6 * * * root test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.daily )
47 6 * * 7 root test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.weekly )
52 6 1 * * root test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.monthly )
```

\$ ll /etc/cron.daily

total 40

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 539 Aug 8 2020 apache2

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1478 Aug 14 2021 apt-compat

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 157 Dec 13 2017 debtags

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1298 May 18 2021 dpkg

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 377 Aug 16 2021 logrotate

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1123 Feb 19 2021 man-db

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1403 Sep 23 2020 ntp

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 652 Dec 7 2020 plocate

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 383 May 6 2021 samba

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 518 Feb 2 2021 sysstat

\$ crontab -e → to open own crontab file.

Ask for the type of editor, select nano

Edit will open file with below comments

Edit this file to introduce tasks to be run by cron.

#

Each task to run has to be defined through a single line

indicating with different fields when the task will be run

and what command to run for the task

#

To define the time you can provide concrete values for

minute (m), hour (h), day of month (dom), month (mon),

and day of week (dow) or use '*' in these fields (for 'any').

#

Notice that tasks will be started based on the cron's system

daemon's notion of time and timezones.

#

Output of the crontab jobs (including errors) is sent through

email to the user the crontab file belongs to (unless redirected).

#

For example, you can run a backup of all your user accounts

at 5 a.m every week with:

0 5 * * 1 tar -zcf /var/backups/home.tgz /home/

#

For more information see the manual pages of crontab(5) and cron(8)

#

m h dom mon dow command

Explanation, how to create crontab script.

m h dom mon dow command

m - minutes – 0 to 59

h → hours – 0 to 23

dom - day of the month → 1 to 31

mon - month → 1 to 12

dow - day of the week → 0 to 6 → Monday 0, Sunday 6

command – command which we want to run.

\$ 5 1 2 * * touch /home/kali/crontab-run.txt

This command will run every 1 hour and 2nd day of the month and every month and every day of the week.

It will run touch command every second day of the month , day can be any and at 01:05 hrs

\$ /5 * * * * touch /home/kali/crontab-run.txt → this will run every 5 minutes.

\$ crontab -r → Delete cron job

\$ crontab -l → Find if any cron job is running

/etc/init.d file → To execute commands while booting the system, we can add command in the file.

-\$ cd /etc/init.d

└─(kali㉿kali)-[/etc/init.d]

└─\$ ls

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| apache2 | console-setup.sh | hwclock.sh | miredo | plymouth | rsync | snmpd | x11-common |
| apache-htcacheclean | cron | inetsim | networking | plymouth-log | rsyslog | speech-dispatcher | xl2tpd |
| apparmor | cryptdisks | iodined | nfs-common | postgresql | rwhod | ssh | |
| atftpd | cryptdisks-early | ipsec | nginx | procps | samba-ad-dc | sslh | |
| avahi-daemon | dbus | keyboard-setup.sh | nmbd | ptunnel | saned | stunnel4 | |
| binfmt-support | dns2tcp | kmod | ntp | pulseaudio-enable-autospawn | screen-cleanup | sudo | |
| bluetooth | docker | lightdm | open-vm-tools | redsocks | smartmontools | sysstat | |
| cgroups-mount | haveged | mariadb | openvpn | rpcbind | smbd | udev | |