

ps

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ps shows which processes are running

I usually run ps like this:

```
$ ps aux
```

u means include username column

a+x together show all process

(ps -ef works too)

w

is for wide. `ps auxww` will show all the command line args for each process

e

is for environment. `ps auxe` will show the environment vars!

you can choose which columns to show with ps (`ps -eo ...`)

One cool column is 'wchan' which tells you the name of the kernel function if the process is sleeping

try it:

```
ps -eo user,pid,wchan,cmd
```

★ process state ★

Here's what the letters in ps's STATE column mean:

R: running

S/D: asleep

Z: zombie

l: multithreaded

t: in the foreground

f

is for "forest" ☺. `ps auxf` will show you an ASCII art process tree!

`pstree` can display a process tree too

ps has 3 different sets of command line arguments 💔

1. UNIX (1 dash)

2. BSD (no dash)

3. GNU (2 dashes)

you can write monstrosities like:

```
$ ps f -f
```

↑ forest (BSD) ↗ full format (UNIX)