

# Fork( ) System call:

Fork( ) is a system call which Creates new process.

- Functionality of fork ( ) is to duplicate the process by creating **Parent process** and **Child process**.
- After creation of process both parent process and child process starts execution from the next instruction.
- Fork( ) will return values.
  1. Fork( ) will return a value greater than '0' which can be process id of child process for successful creation of process.  
Fork( )>0.
  2. Fork( ) will return a Negative value in error case  
Fork( )<0.
  3. Fork( ) will return '0' to child process.  
Fork( )=0.

## Sample Program:

```
#include<stdio.h>

#include<sys/types.h>

#include<unistd.h>

int main()

{

fork( );

printf("MNJ_S_19\n");

}
```

Output:

MNJ\_S\_19

MNJ\_S\_19

Explanation:

- Functionality of fork is duplicating the process by creating parent and child processes.
- It will duplicate the entire process.
- After creation of process the Parent process will start its execution from the next instruction which is “**printf(“MNJ\_S\_19”)**”.
- so the parent process will print **MNJ\_S\_19** because printf is the next instruction.
- The Child process will start its execution from the next instruction which is “**printf(“MNJ\_S\_19”)**”.
- so the Child process will print **MNJ\_S\_19** because printf is the next instruction.

Parent process

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<sys/types.h>
#include<unistd.h>
int main()
{
    fork( );
    printf("MNJ_S_19\n");
}
```

Child Process

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<sys/types.h>
#include<unistd.h>
int main()
{
    fork( );
    printf("MNJ_S_19\n");
}
```

Assuming child  
process id is 519

- The return value of fork( ) in the parent process is 519 because the parent process always holds the id of child process.
- The return value of fork( ) in the child process is zero.

Program:

```
#include<stdio.h>

#include<sys/types.h>

#include<unistd.h>

int main()

{

if(fork( )==0)

{

printf("MNJ_S_19 \n");

}

else

{

printf("KAJAL \n");

}

}
```

Output:

KAJAL

MNJ\_S\_19

Assuming child  
process id is 519

### Parent process

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<sys/types.h>
#include<unistd.h>
int main()
{
if(fork( )==0)
{
printf("MNJ_S_19 \n");
}
else
{
printf("KAJAL \n");
}
}
```

### Child Process

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<sys/types.h>
#include<unistd.h>
int main()
{
if(fork( )==0)
{
printf("MNJ_S_19 \n");
}
else
{
printf("KAJAL \n");
}
}
```

### Explanation:

- The return value of fork( ) in the parent process is 519 because the parent process always holds the id of child process.
- It will check the **if condition**  
if(fork( ) ==0) i.e., if(519==0)
- As if condition is false it will print the else case which is **“KAJAL”**.
- The return value of fork( ) in the child process is zero.
- It will check the **if condition**  
if(fork( ) ==0) i.e., if(0==0)
- As if condition is true it will print the if case which is **“MNJ\_S\_19”**.