

Basic Process Tools

There are three process tools that you should understand:

- `ps`
- `kill`
- `killall`

ps

- Show current processes
- By default, `ps` displays only processes owned by the user that are running in the terminal.
- In order to get useful information, use the flags below:
 - "e" means everything, or all processes.
 - "f" means full format, or display all information
 - "u" means user friendly format
 - "ax" means all processes
- These flags are typically used as follows:
 - `ps -ef` (displays all processes)
 - `ps aux` (same as above)
 - `ps ux` (displays all of your processes)
- Note that the output is similar.

Example:

countto program -- counts to a certain number

open countto in one terminal and view it's process ID in another terminal

kill

- Technically, it sends a signal to a process, but typically it is used to terminate the process.
- Use the "-9" flag to terminate:
 - kill -9 <pid>

killall

- Instead of using the process ID, you use the name of the program.
- It terminates all processes started with the same program.
 - killall python # terminate all Python programs

kill demos