NAME

kill − send a signal to a process

SYNOPSIS

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

DESCRIPTION

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.

OPTIONS

<pid> [...]

> Send signal to every <pid> listed.

−<signal>
−s <signal>
−−signal <signal>

> Specify the **signal** to be sent. The signal can be specified by using name or number. The behavior of signals is explained in **signal**(7) manual page.

−q, **−−queue** *value*

> Use **sigqueue(3)** rather than **kill(2)** and the value argument is used to specify an integer to be sent with the signal. If the receiving process has installed a handler for this signal using the SA_SIG-INFO flag to **sigaction(2)** , then it can obtain this data via the si_value field of the siginfo_t structure.

−l, **−−list** [*signal*]

> List signal names. This option has optional argument, which will convert signal number to signal name, or other way round.

−L, **−−table**

> List signal names in a nice table.

NOTES

> Your shell (command line interpreter) may have a built-in kill command. You may need to run the command described here as /bin/kill to solve the conflict.

EXAMPLES

kill −9 −1

> Kill all processes you can kill.

kill −l 11

> Translate number 11 into a signal name.

kill −L List the available signal choices in a nice table.

kill 123 543 2341 3453

> Send the default signal, SIGTERM, to all those processes.

SEE ALSO

kill(2), **killall**(1), **nice**(1), **pkill**(1), **renice**(1), **signal**(7), **sigqueue**(3), **skill**(1)

STANDARDS

This command meets appropriate standards. The **−L** flag is Linux-specific.

AUTHOR

Albert Cahalan ⟨albert@users.sf.net⟩ wrote kill in 1999 to replace a bsdutils one that was not standards compliant. The util-linux one might also work correctly.

REPORTING BUGS
   Please send bug reports to ⟨procps@freelists.org⟩

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