

NAME

ipcs – show information on IPC facilities

SYNOPSIS

ipcs [options]

DESCRIPTION

ipcs shows information on System V inter-process communication facilities. By default it shows information about all three resources: shared memory segments, message queues, and semaphore arrays.

OPTIONS

-i, --id *id*

Show full details on just the one resource element identified by *id*. This option needs to be combined with one of the three resource options: **-m**, **-q** or **-s**.

-h, --help

Display help text and exit.

-V, --version

Print version and exit.

Resource options

-m, --shmems

Write information about active shared memory segments.

-q, --queues

Write information about active message queues.

-s, --semaphores

Write information about active semaphore sets.

-a, --all

Write information about all three resources (default).

Output formats

Of these options only one takes effect: the last one specified.

-c, --creator

Show creator and owner.

-l, --limits

Show resource limits.

-p, --pid

Show PIDs of creator and last operator.

-t, --time

Write time information. The time of the last control operation that changed the access permissions for all facilities, the time of the last **msgsnd(2)** and **msgrcv(2)** operations on message queues, the time of the last **shmat(2)** and **shmdt(2)** operations on shared memory, and the time of the last **semop(2)** operation on semaphores.

-u, --summary

Show status summary.

Representation

These affect only the **-l** (**--limits**) option.

-b, --bytes

Print the sizes in bytes rather than in a human-readable format.

By default, the unit, sizes are expressed in, is byte, and unit prefixes are in power of 2^{10} (1024). Abbreviations of symbols are exhibited truncated in order to reach a better readability, by exhibiting alone the first letter of them; examples: "1 KiB" and "1 MiB" are respectively exhibited as "1 K" and "1 M", then omitting on purpose the mention "iB", which is part of these abbreviations.

--human

Print sizes in human-readable format.

CONFORMING TO

The Linux **ipcs** utility is not fully compatible to the POSIX **ipcs** utility. The Linux version does not support the POSIX **-a**, **-b** and **-o** options, but does support the **-l** and **-u** options not defined by POSIX. A portable application shall not use the **-a**, **-b**, **-o**, **-l**, and **-u** options.

NOTES

The current implementation of **ipcs** obtains information about available IPC resources by parsing the files in */proc/sysvipc*. Before util-linux version v2.23, an alternate mechanism was used: the **IPC_STAT** command of **msgctl(2)**, **semctl(2)**, and **shmctl(2)**. This mechanism is also used in later util-linux versions in the case where */proc* is unavailable. A limitation of the **IPC_STAT** mechanism is that it can only be used to retrieve information about IPC resources for which the user has read permission.

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SEE ALSO

ipcmk(1), **ipcrm(1)**, **msgrcv(2)**, **msgsnd(2)**, **semget(2)**, **semop(2)**, **shmat(2)**, **shmdt(2)**, **shmget(2)**, **sysvipc(7)**

REPORTING BUGS

For bug reports, use the issue tracker at <https://github.com/util-linux/util-linux/issues>.

AVAILABILITY

The **ipcs** command is part of the util-linux package which can be downloaded from [Linux Kernel Archive](https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/) <<https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/>>.