## NAME

**init−d−script** — interpreter for short and simple init.d scripts

## DESCRIPTION

Generic init.d script framework to reduce the redundant code in /etc/init.d/. The goal is to create an init.d script that is Debian and LSB compliant. When the Debian policy conflicts with the LSB, the Debian policy takes precedence.

This is a simple example on how init−d−script can be used to start and stop a daemon with PID file support:

```
#!/bin/sh /lib/init/init-d-script
### BEGIN INIT INFO
# Provides:          atd
# Required-Start:    $syslog $time $remote_fs
# Required-Stop:     $syslog $time $remote_fs
# Default-Start:     2 3 4 5
# Default-Stop:      0 1 6
# Short-Description: run at jobs
# Description:       Debian init script to start the daemon
#                    running at jobs.
### END INIT INFO
DAEMON=/usr/sbin/atd
```

The following variables affect behaviour of an init script:

DAEMON — Path to daemon being started. If the init script is not supposed to start any kind of daemon, it should be set to "none" and the functions **do_start_override**(), **do_stop_override**() and **do_status_override**() should be defined instead.

DAEMON_ARGS — Additional arguments, passed to daemon during start.

DESC — Full name or short description of the daemon, printed on screen. If unset, this variable defaults to the "NAME" value.

NAME — Additional environment variables are sourced from /etc/default/${NAME}. If unset, this variable defaults to the basename of the "DAEMON" value.

COMMAND_NAME — If this variable is set, it is used as argument to the **−−name** option of start−stop−daemon(8). It may be useful if the value of the "NAME" variable is longer than the command name length supported by the running kernel. If the value is verbatim "none", the command name will not be used to match the processes. If unset, this variable defaults to the "NAME" value.

PIDFILE — Path to file where the process identifier of the started daemon will be stored during start. If the value is verbatim "none", the process identifier will not be stored in any file. If this variable is not set, it gets a sensible default value, so it is rarely necessary to set this variable explicitly.

RELOAD_SIGNAL — Signal number or name (without the SIG prefix) that will be sent to the process on **reload**. If the daemon performs reload action upon receiving a SIGHUP signal, this variable should be set to "1" or "HUP".

The variables RELOAD_ARGS, START_ARGS and STOP_ARGS are additional arguments, passed to start−stop−daemon(8) during reload, start and stop actions, to override the default options.

Additionally, it is possible to change the behaviour of the resulting shell script by overriding some of the internal functions. To do so, define function with an **_override** suffix. So, for example, to override the **do_status**() function, one should define a **do_status_override**() function. The *exception* to this

rule is the **do_reload**() function, whose override should be defined as-is, *without* the above-mentioned suffix.

Here is a control flow chart that explains what functions are called and when:

```
/etc/init.d/script start
  do_start
    do_start_prepare # no-op
    do_start_cmd     # start−stop−daemon is called here
    do_start_cleanup # no-op

/etc/init.d/script stop
  do_stop
    do_stop_prepare # no-op
    do_stop_cmd     # start−stop−daemon is called here
    do_stop_cleanup # no-op

/etc/init.d/script status
  do_status

/etc/init.d/script reload
  do_reload
    do_usage
    exit 3

/etc/init.d/script force−reload
  do_force_reload
    do_reload   # if overridden
    do_restart
      do_restart_prepare
      do_stop_cmd
      do_start_cmd
      do_restart_cleanup

/etc/init.d/script restart
  do_force_restart
/etc/init.d/script try−restart
  if do_status; then
    do_restart
      do_restart_prepare
      do_stop_cmd  # start−stop−daemon is called here
      do_start_cmd # start−stop−daemon is called here
      do_restart_cleanup

/etc/init.d/script <arg>
  do_unknown <arg>
    exit 3

/etc/init.d/script
  do_usage
```

As can be seen, by default, the script does not support the **reload** action; it should be implemented by the script writer by defining a **do_reload**() function.

If **do_reload**() is not defined but **do_reload_cmd**() is, the latter will be called on **reload**, after **do_reload_prepare**() and before **do_reload_cleanup**().

**SEE ALSO**

inittab(8), service(8), update−rc.d(8).

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