

NAME

sysctl.conf – sysctl preload/configuration file

DESCRIPTION

sysctl.conf is a simple file containing sysctl values to be read in and set by **sysctl**. The syntax is simply as follows:

```
# comment
; comment

token = value
```

Note that blank lines are ignored, and whitespace before and after a token or value is ignored, although a value can contain whitespace within. Lines which begin with a **#** or **;** are considered comments and ignored.

If a line begins with a single **-**, any attempts to set the value that fail will be ignored.

NOTES

As the **/etc/sysctl.conf** file is used to override default kernel parameter values, only a small number of parameters is predefined in the file. Use **/sbin/sysctl -a** or follow **sysctl(8)** to list all possible parameters. The description of individual parameters can be found in the kernel documentation.

EXAMPLE

```
# sysctl.conf sample
#
kernel.domainname = example.com
; this one has a space which will be written to the sysctl!
kernel.modprobe = /sbin/mod probe
```

FILES

```
/etc/sysctl.d/*.conf
/run/sysctl.d/*.conf
/usr/local/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf
/usr/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf
/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf
/etc/sysctl.conf
```

The paths where **sysctl** preload files usually exist. See also **sysctl** option **--system**.

SEE ALSO

sysctl(8)

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REPORTING BUGS

Please send bug reports to <procps@freelists.org>