

# Linux\_Process\_Management\_Guide

---

## Linux Process Management Guide

---

**Author:** Divyanshi Thapa

**Date:** September 26, 2025

---

### ps accepts options in various formats:

- not preceded with a dash (BSD style)
- preceded with a dash (UNIX style)
- preceded with two dashes (GNU style)

### Table of Contents

1. [Viewing All Processes](#)
2. [Simple filtering](#)
3. [Listing threads](#)
4. [Listing Child processes](#)
5. [Controlling the Output](#)
6. [Process Tree](#)
7. [Real-Time Process Monitoring](#)
8. [Adjusting Process Priority](#)
9. [CPU Affinity\\_\(Bind Process to CPU Core\)](#)
10. [I/O Scheduling Priority](#)
11. [File Descriptors Used by a Process](#)
12. [Trace System Calls of a Process](#)
13. [Find Process Using a Port](#)
14. [Per-Process Statistics](#)
15. [Control Groups for Resource Limits](#)
16. [Alternatives to nice / renice](#)
17. [Cheat Sheet](#)

---

NOTE: To find a process by its name like "sleep 3000": `sudo pgrep -f "sleep 1000"`

NOTE: To kill a process if you know its name like "sleep 300" : `sudo pkill -f "sleep 300"`

# 1. List Processes

Command:

```
ps aux
```

Explanation:

- **ps** → process status
- **a** → show processes for all users
- **u** → show user/owner of process
- **x** → includes off terminal commands

Example Output:

USER	PID	%CPU	%MEM	VSZ	RSS	TTY	STAT	START	TIME	COMMAND
root	1	0.0	0.1	167500	1100	?	Ss	Sep25	0:05	/sbin/init
vibhu	1234	1.2	1.5	274532	15632	?	Sl	10:15	0:12	/usr/bin/python3 script.py
mysql	2001	0.5	2.0	450000	20988	?	Ssl	Sep25	1:02	/usr/sbin/mysqld

Sample code:

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps au
USER      PID %CPU %MEM    VSZ   RSS TTY      STAT START   TIME COMMAND
vboxuser  1932  0.0  0.0 235668  5876 tty2    Ssl+  04:42    0:00 /usr/libexec/gdm-wayland-session env GNOME_SHELL_SES
vboxuser  1944  0.0  0.2 298236 16316 tty2    Sl+   04:42    0:00 /usr/libexec/gnome-session-binary --session=ubuntu
vboxuser  5027  0.0  0.0  11260  5544 pts/1    Ss   07:45    0:01 bash
vboxuser  8660  600  0.0  13616  4576 pts/1    R+   11:22    0:00 ps au
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps u
USER      PID %CPU %MEM    VSZ   RSS TTY      STAT START   TIME COMMAND
vboxuser  1932  0.0  0.0 235668  5876 tty2    Ssl+  04:42    0:00 /usr/libexec/gdm-wayland-session env GNOME_SHELL_SES
vboxuser  1944  0.0  0.2 298236 16316 tty2    Sl+   04:42    0:00 /usr/libexec/gnome-session-binary --session=ubuntu
vboxuser  5027  0.0  0.0  11260  5544 pts/1    Ss   07:45    0:01 bash
vboxuser  8661 100  0.0  13616  4592 pts/1    R+   11:22    0:00 ps u
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps a
  PID TTY          STAT TIME  COMMAND
  1932 tty2      Ssl+   0:00 /usr/libexec/gdm-wayland-session env GNOME_SHELL_SESSION_MODE=ubuntu /usr/bin/gnome-sessio
  1944 tty2      Sl+    0:00 /usr/libexec/gnome-session-binary --session=ubuntu
  5027 pts/1      Ss     0:01  bash
  8662 pts/1      R+     0:00  ps a
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps x
  PID TTY          STAT TIME  COMMAND
  1860 ?          Ss     0:12 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd --user
  1861 ?          Ss     0:00 /usr/bin/gnome-shell
```

Command : `ps -e`

Note: see a more detailed output by using the `-f` in last.

Note : `-f` adds on the additional info in all the other commands.

## 2. Simple filtering

Command: `ps -C processname`

searching for a particular process by name with the `-C` option.

**Command:** `ps -p processid`

filter based on a list of process ids using the -p flag.

**Command::** `ps -u username`

search by the user name by specifying it in the -u option.

**Sample code:**

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -p 8707
  PID TTY          TIME CMD
 8707 ?            00:00:00 kworker/3:0-mm_percpu_wq
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -u vbosuser | head -5
error: user name does not exist

Usage:
ps [options]

Try 'ps --help <simple|list|output|threads|misc|all>'
or 'ps --help <s|l|o|t|m|a>'
for additional help text.

For more details see ps(1).
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -u vboxuser | head -5
  PID TTY          TIME CMD
 1860 ?            00:00:12 systemd
 1864 ?            00:00:00 (sd-pam)
 1875 ?            00:00:17 pipewire
 1876 ?            00:00:00 pipewire
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

### 3. Listing Threads

**Command:** `ps -C gedit -L`

- Todo: search a process named gedit and list all its threads.

**Note :** you can ask for a more informative output then :

```
ps -C gedit -L -f
```

- total number of threads of the process in the NLWP column.

**Sample code:**

## 4. Listing Child Processes

see the spawned child processes rather than the threads.

**Command:** `ps -e -H`

- H - for heirarchy
- we can filter by session id (SID) only and not by pid or process name.

For that: `ps -g sid -H`

or

`ps -s sid -H`

**Sample code:**

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -e -H | head -5
  PID TTY          TIME CMD
    2 ?            00:00:00 kthreadd
    3 ?            00:00:00  pool_workqueue_release
    4 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-rcu_gp
    5 ?            00:00:00 kworker/R-sync_wq
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -e -H -o pid,cmd | head -5
  PID CMD
    2 [kthreadd]
    3 [pool_workqueue_release]
    4 [kworker/R-rcu_gp]
    5 [kworker/R-sync_wq]
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -C bash -o sid
  SID
 2706
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -g 2706 -H | head -5
  PID TTY          TIME CMD
 2706 pts/0      00:00:00 bash
 2839 pts/0      00:00:00  ps
 2840 pts/0      00:00:00  head
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

**How to see my session id?**

`ps -C gedit -o sid`

Note:

session id is equal to the process id that started the session — also called the session leader.

## 5. Controlling the Output

control which columns are printed with the help of the -o flag ( order oriented).

```
ps -C gedit -o pid,ttty
```

Sample code:

```
sr/share/://var/lib/snapd/desktop
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -e -o pid,cmd | head -6
  PID  CMD
    1  /sbin/init splash
    2  [kthreadd]
    3  [pool_workqueue_release]
    4  [kworker/R-rcu_gp]
    5  [kworker/R-sync_wq]
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

## 6. Process Tree

Command:

```
pstree -p
```

Explanation:

Shows parent-child process relationships.

- [] denote identical branches.
- { } denote child thread.

Example Output:

```
systemd(1)─┬─NetworkManager(778)
            │
            ├─sshd(895)─┬─sshd(1023)─┬─bash(1024)─┬─pstree(1101)
            │           │
            │           └─mysqld(2001)
            └─python3(1234)
```

Sample code:

```

└─wpa_supplicant(863)
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ pstree -p | head -5
systemd(1)-+-ModemManager(936)-+-{ModemManager}(965)
|                                     | -{ModemManager}(974)
|                                     ` -{ModemManager}(977)
| -NetworkManager(858)-+-{NetworkManager}(935)
|                       | -{NetworkManager}(938)
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$

```

## 7. Real-Time Monitoring

Command:

```
top
```

Sample code:

vboxuser@ubuntu: ~

```

top - 12:54:03 up 12 min, 1 user, load average: 0.09, 0.13, 0.15
Tasks: 245 total, 1 running, 244 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 0.7 us, 0.8 sy, 0.0 ni, 96.0 id, 0.1 wa, 0.0 hi, 2.5 si, 0.0 st
MiB Mem : 7941.2 total, 6201.2 free, 1054.3 used, 961.6 buff/cache
MiB Swap: 0.0 total, 0.0 free, 0.0 used. 6886.9 avail Mem

```

PID	USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+	COMMAND
2043	vboxuser	20	0	5386932	399068	147344	S	8.6	4.9	0:41.12	gnome-shell
2699	vboxuser	20	0	555724	54016	42984	S	1.7	0.7	0:03.73	gnome-terminal-
17	root	20	0	0	0	0	S	0.3	0.0	0:00.07	ksoftirqd/0
238	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.3	0.0	0:01.47	kworker/u27:1-events_unbound
2869	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.3	0.0	0:01.91	kworker/5:1-events
1	root	20	0	23280	13976	9368	S	0.0	0.2	0:03.84	systemd
2	root	20	0	0	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.21	kthreadd
3	root	20	0	0	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	pool_workqueue_release
4	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/R-rcu_gp
5	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/R-sync_wq
6	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/R-kvfree_rcu_reclaim
7	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/R-slub_flushwq
8	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/R-netns
9	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.07	kworker/0:0-mm_percpu_wq
11	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/0:0H-events_highpri
12	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/u24:0-ipv6_addrconf
13	root	0	-20	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	kworker/R-mm_percpu_wq
14	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_tasks_kthread
15	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_tasks_rude_kthread
16	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_tasks_trace_kthread
18	root	20	0	0	0	0	I	0.0	0.0	0:01.69	rcu_preempt
19	root	20	0	0	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	rcu_exp_par_gp_kthread_worker/0
20	root	20	0	0	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.65	rcu_exp_gp_kthread_worker
21	root	rt	0	0	0	0	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.10	migration/0

Explanation:

Displays CPU, memory, and process usage in real-time.

- Press **q** to quit.

Example Output (partial):

```

top - 10:20:51 up 2 days, 3:12, 2 users, load average: 0.22, 0.33, 0.45
Tasks: 197 total, 1 running, 196 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie

```

```
%Cpu(s): 12.3 us,  5.4 sy,  0.0 ni, 80.1 id,  2.2 wa,  0.0 hi,  0.0 si,  0.0 st
KiB Mem : 8045632 total, 3564980 free, 1876324 used, 2604328 buff/cache
```

## 8. Adjust Process Priority

The `nice` command is used to start a process with a specified nice value, while the `renice` command is used to alter priority of the running process.

Syntax:

```
nice -n <nice_value> <command_name>
```

**Value of `nice`:** -20(highest) to +20(lowest).

**Default:** 0.

-n:

Set the nice value for a new process.

-p:

Modify the nice value for a process using its PID.

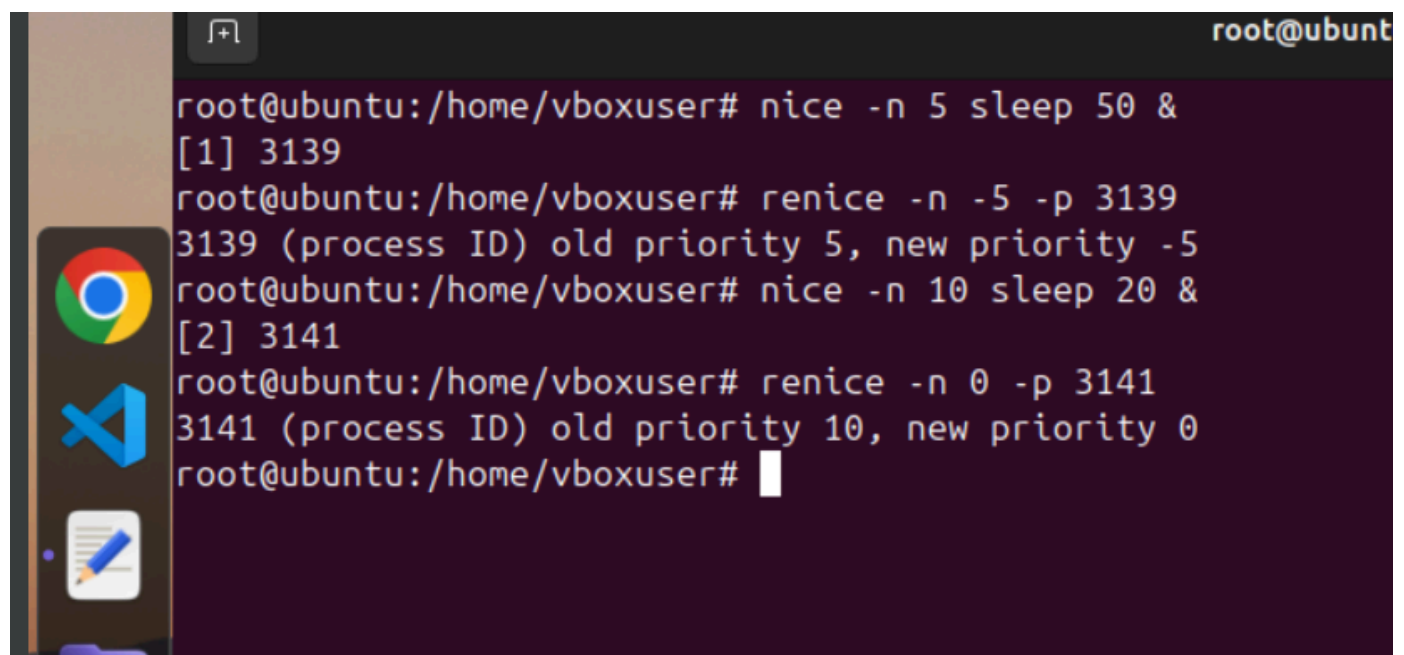
### Start a process with low priority:

```
nice -n 10 sleep 300 &
```

**Output:**

```
[1] 3050
```

### Sample code:

A terminal window screenshot with a dark background. The prompt is 'root@ubuntu:'. The user enters 'nice -n 5 sleep 50 &' and the output is '[1] 3139'. Then the user enters 'renice -n -5 -p 3139' and the output is '3139 (process ID) old priority 5, new priority -5'. Next, the user enters 'nice -n 10 sleep 20 &' and the output is '[2] 3141'. Finally, the user enters 'renice -n 0 -p 3141' and the output is '3141 (process ID) old priority 10, new priority 0'. The terminal ends with 'root@ubuntu:'. On the left side of the terminal window, there is a vertical dock with icons for Google Chrome, Visual Studio Code, and a notepad application. The top right corner of the terminal window shows 'root@ubunt'.

### Change priority of `running` process:

```
renice -n -5 -p 3050
```

Note: You can only use `renice` when the process is running and hasn't ended.

**Output:**

```
3050 (process ID) old priority 10, new priority -5
```

**Note:** Lower *nice* values (negative) mean **higher** priority. Requires appropriate privileges.

---

## 9. CPU Affinity (Bind Process to CPU Core)

### Check CPU affinity:

```
taskset -cp 3050
```

Here, if you use `-p` instead of `-cp` then it just shows `3f` (in my system)

**Output:**

```
pid 3050's current affinity list: 0-3
```

### Restrict to core 1 only:

```
taskset -cp 1 3050
```

**Output:**

```
pid 3050's current affinity list: 1
```

### Sample code:

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ taskset -p 3270
pid 3270's current affinity mask: 3f
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ taskset -cp 3270
pid 3270's current affinity list: 0-5
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ taskset -cp 3271
taskset: failed to get pid 3271's affinity: No such process
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ taskset -cp 3257
pid 3257's current affinity list: 0
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

## 10. I/O Scheduling Priority

### Command:

#### Syntax:

```
ionice -c scheduling_class -n priority_nice_value command
```

**Note:** `ionice` affects Disk I/O not CPU.



Number of the scheduling classes:

- 0 for none
- 1 for real-time
- 2 for best-exertion
- 3 for inactive.

```
ionice -c 3 -p 3050
```

### Output:

```
successfully set pid 3050's IO scheduling class to idle
```

- **Class 3 (idle)** → Process only gets I/O when system is idle.

### Sample code:

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ionice -c 3 bash
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ps -e | tail -5
 2988 pts/0    00:00:00 bash
 3000 ?        00:00:00 update-notifier
 3027 pts/0    00:00:00 bash
 3071 pts/0    00:00:00 ps
 3072 pts/0    00:00:00 tail
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ ionice -c 3 -p 2988
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

## 11. File Descriptors Used by a Process

### Command:

`lsdf`: The command itself, used to list open files.

**Note:** This command lists out all the files that are opened by any process in the system.

```
lsdf -p 3050 | head -5
```

### Note:

`head -5` shows the first 5 lines of the output incl the column heads.

### Example Output:

COMMAND	PID	USER	FD	TYPE	DEVICE	SIZE/OFF	NODE	NAME
sleep	3050	vibhu	cwd	DIR	253,0	4096	131073	/home/vibhu
sleep	3050	vibhu	rtd	DIR	253,0	4096	2	/
sleep	3050	vibhu	txt	REG	253,0	17520	133580	/usr/bin/sleep

### Sample code:

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ lsof -p 2988
COMMAND  PID    USER   FD   TYPE    DEVICE  SIZE/OFF      NODE NAME
bash     2988  vboxuser  cwd   DIR      8,2      4096  1179650 /home/vboxuser
bash     2988  vboxuser rtd   DIR      8,2      4096        2 /
bash     2988  vboxuser txt   REG      8,2  1446024  1311289 /usr/bin/bash
bash     2988  vboxuser mem   REG      8,2  5719296  1368750 /usr/lib/locale/locale
-archive
bash     2988  vboxuser mem   REG      8,2  2125328  1313198 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-
gnu/libc.so.6
bash     2988  vboxuser mem   REG      8,2   208328  1322742 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-
gnu/libtinfo.so.6.4
bash     2988  vboxuser mem   REG      8,2    27028  1313187 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-
gnu/gconv/gconv-modules.cache
bash     2988  vboxuser mem   REG      8,2   236616  1313195 /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-
gnu/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
bash     2988  vboxuser   0u   CHR    136,0      0t0        3 /dev/pts/0
bash     2988  vboxuser   1u   CHR    136,0      0t0        3 /dev/pts/0
bash     2988  vboxuser   2u   CHR    136,0      0t0        3 /dev/pts/0
bash     2988  vboxuser 255u   CHR    136,0      0t0        3 /dev/pts/0
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

## 12. Working with Strace Process Monitoring Tool

### Command:

```
strace -p 3050
```

### Example Output:

```
strace: Process 3050 attached
restart_syscall(<... resuming interrupted nanosleep ...>) = 0
nanosleep({tv_sec=300, tv_nsec=0}, 0x7ffd4a60d8b0) = ? ERESTART_RESTARTBLOCK
(Interrupted by signal)
```

Press **Ctrl+C** to detach from `strace`.

### Sample code:



```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ sudo fuser -n tcp 1091
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ sudo fuser -n tcp 0
0/tcp:                570  1186
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

## 14. Monitoring processes

### Command:

```
pidstat -p 3050 2 3
```

- pidstat: A performance monitoring tool from the sysstat package.(not in my device ##)
- -p 3050: Monitor only the process with PID 3050.
- 2: Interval in seconds between each report.
- 3: Number of reports to generate.

### Example Output:

```
Linux 5.15.0 (ubuntu)    09/25/25      _x86_64_      (4 CPU)
12:30:20      UID      PID      %usr %system  %CPU    CPU    Command
12:30:22      1000      3050      0.00   0.00   0.00     1    sleep
12:30:24      1000      3050      0.00   0.00   0.00     1    sleep
12:30:26      1000      3050      0.00   0.00   0.00     1    sleep
```

**Tip:** `pidstat` is part of the `sysstat` package on most distros.

### Sample code:

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ pidstat -p 3113 3 3
Linux 6.14.0-27-generic (ubuntu)    09/26/2025      _x86_64_      (6 CPU)
02:56:24 PM   UID      PID      %usr %system  %guest  %wait  %CPU    CPU    Command
02:56:27 PM  1000      3113      0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00     2    bash
02:56:30 PM  1000      3113      0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00     2    bash
02:56:33 PM  1000      3113      0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00     2    bash
Average:      1000      3113      0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00     -    bash
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

## 15. Control Groups for Resource Limits

### cgroups

- a Linux kernel feature that limits, accounts for, and isolates the resource usage (CPU, memory, disk I/O, network, etc.) of a collection of processes.

Q 1: We will create a disk-controlled group so that we may run any process with a finite amount of disk read/writes available. i.e. we want to throttle reads and writes done by a process or a group of

processes.

### Create a new cgroup:

```
sudo cgcreate -g cpu,memory:/testgroup
```

### Limit CPU and Memory:

```
echo 50000 | sudo tee /sys/fs/cgroup/cpu/testgroup/cpu.cfs_quota_us
```

```
echo 100M | sudo tee /sys/fs/cgroup/memory/testgroup/memory.limit_in_bytes
```

### Add a process (PID 3050) to cgroup:

```
echo 3050 | sudo tee /sys/fs/cgroup/cpu/testgroup/cgroup.procs
```

**Note:** Paths and controllers differ between **cgroups v1** and **v2**. Adjust for your system.

### Sample code:

```
root@ubuntu:/# stat -fc %T /sys/fs/cgroup/
cgroup2fs
root@ubuntu:/# cd /sys/fs/cgroup
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup# echo +cpu +memory | sudo tee cgroup.subtree_control
+cpu +memory
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup# sudo mkdir firstgrp
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup# ls -l firstgrp
total 0
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.controllers
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.events
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.freeze
--w----- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.kill
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.max.depth
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.max.descendants
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.pressure
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.procs
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.stat
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.subtree_control
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.threads
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cgroup.type
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.idle
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.max
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.max.burst
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.pressure
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.stat
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.stat.local
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.uclamp.max
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.uclamp.min
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.weight
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 cpu.weight.nice
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 io.pressure
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.current
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.events
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.events.local
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.high
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.low
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.max
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.min
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.numa_stat
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.oom.group
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.peak
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.pressure
--w----- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.reclaim
```



```

-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.oom.group
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.peak
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.pressure
--w----- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.reclaim
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.stat
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.swap.current
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.swap.events
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.swap.high
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.swap.max
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.swap.peak
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.zswap.current
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.zswap.max
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 memory.zswap.writeback
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 pids.current
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 pids.events
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 pids.events.local
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 pids.max
-r--r--r-- 1 root root 0 Sep 26 15:17 pids.peak
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup# echo $$ | sudo tee /firstgrp/cgroup.procs
tee: /firstgrp/cgroup.procs: No such file or directory
3149
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup# cd firstgrp
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup/firstgrp# echo $$ | sudo tee cgroup.procs
3149
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup/firstgrp# echo "50000 100000" | sudo tee cpu.max
50000 100000
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup/firstgrp# echo 104857600 | sudo tee memory.max
104857600
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup/firstgrp# cat cpu.stat
usage_usec 185642
user_usec 59247
system_usec 126394
nice_usec 0
core_sched.force_idle_usec 0
nr_periods 16
nr_throttled 0
throttled_usec 0
nr_bursts 0
burst_usec 0
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup/firstgrp# cat memory.current
675840
root@ubuntu:/sys/fs/cgroup/firstgrp# █

```

## 16. Alternatives to nice / renice

### 1. `chrt` command

- command-line utility used to set or retrieve the real-time scheduling policy and priority of a process in Linux.

## ☼ Linux Scheduling Policies: `SCHED_FIFO`, `SCHED_RR`, `SCHED_OTHER`

Policy	Type	Priority Range	Time Slice	Preemption	Use Case
<code>SCHED_FIFO</code>	Real-time	1–99	None	Yes	Deterministic tasks needing strict order
<code>SCHED_RR</code>	Real-time	1–99	Yes	Yes	Fair time-sharing among real-time tasks
<code>SCHED_OTHER</code>	Normal (default)	0	Yes	Yes	General-purpose user processes

### Notes:

- `SCHED_FIFO`: Runs until blocked or preempted. No time slice.  
🚩 FLAG: `-f`
- `SCHED_RR`: Round-robin with time slices. Fair among equal-priority tasks.  
🚩 FLAG: `-r`
- `SCHED_OTHER`: Default Linux scheduler (CFS). Used by most user-space processes.  
🚩 FLAG: `-o`

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ sudo -i
[sudo] password for vboxuser:
root@ubuntu:~# pkill -f "sleep 300"
root@ubuntu:~# chrt -r 40 sleep 300
^C
root@ubuntu:~# pkill -f "sleep 300"
root@ubuntu:~# chrt -r 40 sleep 300 &
[1] 3943
root@ubuntu:~# pgrep -f "sleep 300"
3943
root@ubuntu:~# chrt -p 3943
pid 3943's current scheduling policy: SCHED_RR
pid 3943's current scheduling priority: 40
root@ubuntu:~#
```

### 2. `ionice` (I/O Priority Control)

Refer to: [I/O Scheduling Priority](#)



### 3. taskset (CPU Affinity)

Refer to : [CPU Affinity \(Bind Process to CPU Core\)](#).

### 4. Control Groups (cgroups)

Refer to : [Control Groups for Resource Limits](#)

### 5. systemd-run

Code:

```
systemd-run --scope -p CPUWeight=200 stress --cpu 4
```

Output:

launching the stress tool inside a transient systemd scope unit with a CPU weight of 200.

Explanation:

- `systemd-run`: Creates and starts a transient systemd unit.
- `--scope`: Runs the command in a scope unit, which is suitable for processes that are not started by systemd itself (like interactive commands).
  - `-p CPUWeight=200`: Sets the CPU weight for the scope unit. This is part of systemd's CPU scheduling via cgroups. The default weight is 100; higher values give more CPU time relative to other units.
- `stress --cpu 4`: Runs the stress tool to spawn 4 CPU workers, each spinning in a tight loop to simulate CPU load.

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ sudo apt install stress
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following package was automatically installed and is no longer required:
  libllvm19
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove it.
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  stress
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 36 not upgraded.
Need to get 18.1 kB of archives.
After this operation, 52.2 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://in.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu noble/universe amd64 stress amd64 1.0.7-1 [18.1 kB]
Fetched 18.1 kB in 1s (29.0 kB/s)
Selecting previously unselected package stress.
(Reading database ... 202873 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../stress_1.0.7-1_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking stress (1.0.7-1) ...
Setting up stress (1.0.7-1) ...
Processing triggers for man-db (2.12.0-4build2) ...
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ systemd-run --scope -p CPUWeight=200 stress --cpu 4
Running as unit: run-u111.scope; invocation ID: ceeaa114cb00f48d1909ed1d31ab24431
stress: info: [3641] dispatching hogs: 4 cpu, 0 io, 0 vm, 0 hdd
^C
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ top

top - 06:11:52 up 15 min,  1 user,  load average: 0.86, 0.82, 0.56
Tasks: 248 total,  1 running, 247 sleeping,  0 stopped,  0 zombie
```

### 7. schedtool

Syntax:

```
sudo schedtool -R -p 10 <pid>
```

Sample code:

```
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ pgrep -f "sleep 3000"
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ sleep 3000 &
[1] 4187
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ sudo schedtool -R -p 10 4187
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$ chrt -p 4187
pid 4187's current scheduling policy: SCHED_RR
pid 4187's current scheduling priority: 10
vboxuser@ubuntu:~$
```

## 17. 📌 Cheat Sheet

Command	Purpose
<code>ps -C processname</code>	Filter processes by name
<code>ps -p PID</code>	Show details for specific PID
<code>ps -u username</code>	List processes by user
<code>ps -C gedit -L</code>	List threads of a process
<code>ps -e -H</code>	Show child processes in hierarchy
<code>ps -C gedit -o pid, tty</code>	Customize output columns
<code>strace -p PID</code>	Monitor system calls of a process
<code>sudo fuser -n tcp PORT</code>	Find process using a TCP port
<code>pidstat -p PID interval count</code>	Monitor CPU usage over time
<code>cgroup -g cpu,memory:/group</code>	Create a control group
<code>echo PID   tee /sys/fs/cgroup/...</code>	Add process to cgroup
<code>systemd-run --scope -p CPUWeight=200 command</code>	Run process with CPU weight control
<code>schedtool -R -p N PID</code>	Set real-time scheduling policy