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getcap(8) — Linux manual page

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GETCAP(8)   System Manager's Manual   *GETCAP*(8)

NAME   top

       getcap - examine file capabilities

SYNOPSIS   top

       getcap [-v] [-n] [-r] [-h] *filename* [...]

DESCRIPTION   top

       getcap displays the name and capabilities of each specified file.

OPTIONS   top

       -h prints quick usage.

       -n prints any non-zero user namespace root user ID value found
           to be associated with a file's capabilities.

       -r enables recursive search.

       -v display all searched entries, even if the have no file-
           capabilities.

       NOTE: an *empty* value of **'='** is **not** equivalent to an omitted (or
       removed) capability on a file. This is most significant with
       respect to the Ambient capability vector, since a process with
       Ambient capabilities will lose them when executing a file having
       '=' capabilities, but will retain the Ambient inheritance of
       privilege when executing a file with an omitted file capability.

This special *empty* setting can be used to prevent a binary from executing with privilege. For some time, the kernel honored this suppression for root executing the file, but the kernel developers decided after a number of years that this behavior was unexpected for the superuser and reverted it just for that user identity. Suppression of root privilege, for a process tree, is possible, using the capsh(1) **--mode** option.

filename
    One file per line.

REPORTING BUGS   top

Please report bugs via:

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SEE ALSO   top

capsh(1), cap_get_file(3), cap_to_text(3), capabilities(7), user_namespaces(7), captree(8), getpcaps(8) and setcap(8).

COLOPHON   top

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HTML rendering created 2024-06-26 by Michael Kerrisk, author of *The Linux Programming Interface*.

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