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# sp\_procoption (Transact-SQL)

Article • 10/27/2023 • [12 contributors](#)



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Sets or clears a stored procedure for automatic execution. A stored procedure that is set to automatic execution runs every time an instance of SQL Server is started.



[Transact-SQL syntax conventions](#)

## Syntax

syntaxsql



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```
sys.sp_procoption
[ @ProcName = ] N'ProcName'
, [ @OptionName = ] 'OptionName'
, [ @OptionValue = ] 'OptionValue'
[ ; ]
```

## Arguments

[ @ProcName = ] N'*ProcName*'

The name of the procedure for which to set an option. *@ProcName* is **nvarchar(776)**, with no default.

[ @OptionName = ] '*OptionName*'

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The name of the option to set. *@OptionName* is `varchar(35)`, and the only value possible is `startup`.

[ *@OptionValue* = ] '*OptionValue*'

Whether to set the option on (`true` or `on`) or off (`false` or `off`). *@OptionValue* is `varchar(12)`, with no default.

## Return code values

0 (success) or error number (failure).

## Remarks


Startup procedures must be in the `dbo` schema of the `master` database, and can't contain `INPUT` or `OUTPUT` parameters. Execution of the stored procedures starts when all databases are recovered and the "Recovery is completed" message is logged at startup.

## Permissions

Requires membership in the `sysadmin` fixed server role.


## Examples

The following example sets a procedure for automatic execution.

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```
EXEC sp_procoption @ProcName = N'<procedure name>',
    @OptionName = 'startup',
    @OptionValue = 'on';
```

The following example stops a procedure from executing automatically.

SQL  Copy

```
EXEC sp_procoption @ProcName = N'<procedure name>',
    @OptionName = 'startup',
    @OptionValue = 'off';
```

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