bionic (8) start-stop-daemon.8.gz

Provided by: dpkg_1.19.0.5ubuntu2_amd64

NAME

start-stop-daemon - start and stop system daemon programs

SYNOPSIS

start-stop-daemon [option...] command

DESCRIPTION

start-stop-daemon is used to control the creation and termination of system-level processes. Using one of the matching options, start-stop-daemon can be configured to find existing instances of a running process.

Note: unless --pid or --pidfile are specified, start-stop-daemon behaves similar to killall(1). start-stop-daemon will scan the process table looking for any processes which match the process name, parent pid, uid, and/or gid (if specified). Any matching process will prevent --start from starting the daemon. All matching processes will be sent the TERM signal (or the one specified via --signal or --retry) if --stop is specified. For daemons which have long-lived children which need to live through a --stop, you must specify a pidfile.

COMMANDS

-S, --start [--] arguments

Check for the existence of a specified process. If such a process exists, start-stop-daemon does nothing, and exits with error status 1 (0 if --oknodo is specified). If such a process does not exist, it starts an instance, using either the executable specified by --exec or, if specified, by --startas. Any arguments given after -- on the command line are passed unmodified to the program being started.

-K, --stop

Checks for the existence of a specified process. If such a process exists, start-stop-daemon sends it the signal specified by --signal, and exits with error status 0. If such a process does not exist, start-stop-daemon exits with error status 1 (0 if --oknodo is specified). If --retry is specified, then

start-stop-daemon will check that the process(es) have terminated.

-T, --status
Check for the existence of a specified process, and returns an exit status code, according to the LSB Init Script Actions (since version 1.16.1).

-H, --help
Show usage information and exit.

-V, --version
Show the program version and exit.

OPTIONS

Matching options

--pid pid
Check for a process with the specified pid (since version 1.17.6). The pid must be a number greater than 0.

--ppid ppid
Check for a process with the specified parent pid ppid (since version 1.17.7). The ppid must be a number greater than 0.

-p, --pidfile pid-file
Check whether a process has created the file pid-file. Note: using this matching option alone might cause unintended processes to be acted on, if the old process terminated without being able to remove the pid-file.

-x, --exec executable

Check for processes that are instances of this executable. The executable argument should be an absolute pathname. Note: this might not work as intended with interpreted scripts, as the executable will point to the interpreter. Take into account processes running from inside a chroot will also be matched, so other match restrictions might be needed.

-n, --name process-name

Check for processes with the name process-name. The process-name is usually the process filename, but it could have been changed by the process itself. Note: on most systems this information is retrieved from the process comm name from the kernel, which tends to have a relatively short length limit (assuming more than 15 characters is non-portable).

-u, --user username|uid

Check for processes owned by the user specified by username or uid. Note: using this matching option alone will cause all processes matching the user to be acted on.

Generic options

-g, --group group|gid

Change to group or gid when starting the process.

-s, --signal signal

With --stop, specifies the signal to send to processes being stopped (default TERM).

-R, --retry timeout|schedule

With --stop, specifies that start-stop-daemon is to check whether the process(es)

do finish. It will check repeatedly whether any matching processes are running, until none are. If the processes do not exit it will then take further action as determined by the schedule.

If timeout is specified instead of schedule, then the schedule signal/timeout/KILL/timeout is used, where signal is the signal specified with --signal.

schedule is a list of at least two items separated by slashes (/); each item may be -signal-number or [-]signal-name, which means to send that signal, or timeout, which means to wait that many seconds for processes to exit, or forever, which means to repeat the rest of the schedule forever if necessary.

If the end of the schedule is reached and forever is not specified, then start-stop-daemon exits with error status 2. If a schedule is specified, then any signal specified with --signal is ignored.

-a, --startas pathname

With --start, start the process specified by pathname. If not specified, defaults to the argument given to --exec.

-t, --test

Print actions that would be taken and set appropriate return value, but take no action.

-o, --oknodo

Return exit status 0 instead of 1 if no actions are (would be) taken.

-q, --quiet

Do not print informational messages; only display error messages.

-c, --chuid username|uid[:group|gid]

Change to this username/uid before starting the process. You can also specify a group by appending a :, then the group or gid in the same way as you would for the chown(1) command (user:group). If a user is specified without a group, the primary GID for that user is used. When using this option you must realize that the primary and supplemental groups are set as well, even if the --group option is not specified. The --group option is only for groups that the user isn't normally a member of (like adding per process group membership for generic users like nobody).

-r, --chroot root

Chdir and chroot to root before starting the process. Please note that the pidfile is also written after the chroot.

-d, --chdir path

Chdir to path before starting the process. This is done after the chroot if the -r|--chroot option is set. When not specified, start-stop-daemon will chdir to the root directory before starting the process.

-b, --background

Typically used with programs that don't detach on their own. This option will force start-stop-daemon to fork before starting the process, and force it into the background. Warning: start-stop-daemon cannot check the exit status if the process fails to execute for any reason. This is a last resort, and is only meant for programs that either make no sense forking on their own, or where it's not feasible to add the code for them to do this themselves.

-C, --no-close

Do not close any file descriptor when forcing the daemon into the background (since version 1.16.5). Used for debugging purposes to see the process output, or to redirect file descriptors to log the process output. Only relevant when using --background.

-N, --nicelevel int
This alters the priority of the process before starting it.

-P, --procsched policy:priority
This alters the process scheduler policy and priority of the process before starting it (since version 1.15.0). The priority can be optionally specified by appending a : followed by the value. The default priority is 0. The currently supported policy values are other, fifo and rr.

-I, --iosched class:priority
This alters the IO scheduler class and priority of the process before starting it (since version 1.15.0). The priority can be optionally specified by appending a : followed by the value. The default priority is 4, unless class is idle, then priority will always be 7. The currently supported values for class are idle, best-effort and real-time.

-k, --umask mask
This sets the umask of the process before starting it (since version 1.13.22).

-m, --make-pidfile
Used when starting a program that does not create its own pid file. This option will make start-stop-daemon create the file referenced with --pidfile and place the pid into it just before executing the process. Note, the file will only be removed when stopping the program if --remove-pidfile is used. Note: This feature may not

work in all cases. Most notably when the program being executed forks from its main process. Because of this, it is usually only useful when combined with the --background option.

--remove-pidfile
Used when stopping a program that does not remove its own pid file (since version 1.17.19). This option will make start-stop-daemon remove the file referenced with --pidfile after terminating the process.

-v, --verbose
Print verbose informational messages.

EXIT STATUS

0 The requested action was performed. If --oknodo was specified, it's also possible that nothing had to be done. This can happen when --start was specified and a matching process was already running, or when --stop was specified and there were no matching processes.

1 If --oknodo was not specified and nothing was done.

2 If --stop and --retry were specified, but the end of the schedule was reached and the processes were still running.

3 Any other error.

When using the --status command, the following status codes are returned:

```
0       Program is running.

1       Program is not running and the pid file exists.

3       Program is not running.

4       Unable to determine program status.
```

EXAMPLE

```
Start the food daemon, unless one is already running (a process  named  food,  running  as
user food, with pid in food.pid):

       start-stop-daemon --start --oknodo --user food --name food \
            --pidfile /run/food.pid --startas /usr/sbin/food \
            --chuid food -- --daemon

Send SIGTERM to food and wait up to 5 seconds for it to stop:

       start-stop-daemon --stop --oknodo --user food --name food \
            --pidfile /run/food.pid --retry 5

Demonstration of a custom schedule for stopping food:

       start-stop-daemon --stop --oknodo --user food --name food \
            --pidfile /run/food.pid --retry=TERM/30/KILL/5
```

Powered by the Ubuntu Manpage Repository, file bugs in Launchpad