System Initialization

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init

- **/sbin/init** (usually just called **init**) is the first user-level process (or task) that runs on the system and continues to run until the system is shutdown

- Traditionally it has been considered the parent of all user processes, although technically that is not true as some processes are started directly by the kernel

- init coordinates the later stages of the boot process, configures all aspects of the environment and starts the processes needed for logging into the system; it also works closely with the kernel in cleaning up after processes when they terminate