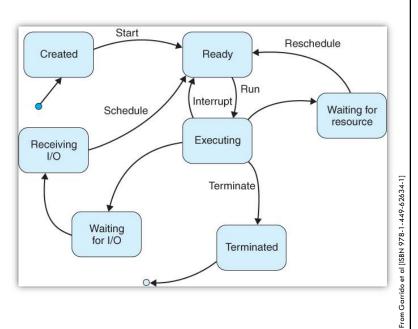


PROCESS STATES

Each process in an operating system is in a specific state

State changes occur for a variety of reasons, e.g., an interrupt occurs, a timer expires, a resource becomes available, a signal is received, etc.

Most of the time, processes are in a "waiting" state of some sort



CONTEXT SWITCH

A context switch occurs each time the operating system switches its context from one process to another

The operating system maintains a Process Control Block (PCB) for each process, regardless of process state

PCBs contain register values, program counter, file descriptor table, page tables, etc.

 $t_{context-switch} << t_{cpu-burst}$

