



Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'pkill.1'

C:\>man pkill.1

PGREP(1) User Commands PGREP(1)

NAME

pgrep, pkill - look up or signal processes based on name and other attributes

SYNOPSIS

pgrep [options] pattern

pkill [options] pattern

DESCRIPTION

pgrep looks through the currently running processes and lists the process IDs which match the selection criteria to stdout. All the criteria have to match. For example,

```
$ pgrep -u root sshd
```

will only list the processes called sshd AND owned by root. On the other hand,

```
$ pgrep -u root,daemon
```

will list the processes owned by root OR daemon.

pkill will send the specified signal (by default SIGTERM) to each process instead of listing them on stdout.

OPTIONS

-signal

--signal signal

Defines the signal to send to each matched process. Either the numeric or the symbolic signal name can be used. (pkill only.)

-c, --count

Suppress normal output; instead print a count of matching processes. When count does not match anything, e.g. returns zero, the command will return non-zero value.

-d, --delimiter delimiter

Sets the string used to delimit each process ID in the output (by default a newline). (pgrep only.)

-f, --full

The pattern is normally only matched against the process name. When **-f** is set, the full command line is used.

-g, --pgroup pgrp,...

Only match processes in the process group IDs listed. Process group 0 is translated into pgrep's or pkill's own process group.

-G, --group gid,...

Only match processes whose real group ID is listed. Either the numerical or symbolical value may be used.

-i, --ignore-case

Match processes case-insensitively.

-l, --list-name

List the process name as well as the process ID. (pgrep only.)

-a, --list-full

List the full command line as well as the process ID. (pgrep only.)

-n, --newest

Select only the newest (most recently started) of the matching processes.

-o, --oldest

Select only the oldest (least recently started) of the matching processes.

-P, --parent ppid,...

Only match processes whose parent process ID is listed.

-s, --session sid,...

Only match processes whose process session ID is listed. Session ID 0 is translated into pgrep's or pkill's own session ID.

-t, --terminal term,...

Only match processes whose controlling terminal is listed. The terminal name should be specified without the `"/dev/"` prefix.

-u, --euid euid,...

Only match processes whose effective user ID is listed. Either the numerical or symbolical value may be used.

-U, --uid uid,...

Only match processes whose real user ID is listed. Either the numerical or symbolical value may be used.

-v, --inverse

Negates the matching. This option is usually used in pgrep's context. In pkill's context the short option is disabled to avoid accidental usage of the option.

-w, --lightweight

Shows all thread ids instead of pids in pgrep's context. In pkill's context this option is disabled.

-x, --exact

Only match processes whose names (or command line if -f is specified) exactly match the pattern.

-F, --pidfile file

Read PID's from file. This option is perhaps more useful for pkill than pgrep.

-L, --logpidfile

Fail if pidfile (see -F) not locked.

-r, --runstates D,R,S,Z,...

Match only processes which match the process state.

--ns pid

Match processes that belong to the same namespaces. Required to run as root to match processes from other users. See --nslist for how to limit which namespaces to match.

--nslist name,...

Match only the provided namespaces. Available namespaces: ipc, mnt, net, pid, user,uts.

-V, --version

Display version information and exit.

-h, --help

Display help and exit.

OPERANDS

pattern

Specifies an Extended Regular Expression for matching against the process names or command lines.

EXAMPLES

Example 1: Find the process ID of the named daemon:

```
$ pgrep -u root named
```

Example 2: Make syslog reread its configuration file:

```
$ pkill -HUP syslogd
```

Example 3: Give detailed information on all xterm processes:

```
$ ps -fp $(pgrep -d, -x xterm)
```

Example 4: Make all chrome processes run nicer:

```
$ renice +4 $(pgrep chrome)
```

EXIT STATUS

- 0 One or more processes matched the criteria. For pkill the process must also have been successfully signalled.
- 1 No processes matched or none of them could be signalled.
- 2 Syntax error in the command line.
- 3 Fatal error: out of memory etc.

NOTES

The process name used for matching is limited to the 15 characters present in the output of `/proc/pid/stat`. Use the `-f` option to match against the complete command line, `/proc/pid/cmdline`.

The running `pgrep` or `pkill` process will never report itself as a match.

BUGS

The options `-n` and `-o` and `-v` can not be combined. Let me know if you need to do this.

Defunct processes are reported.

SEE ALSO

`ps(1)`, `regex(7)`, `signal(7)`, `killall(1)`, `skill(1)`, `kill(1)`, `kill(2)`

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REPORTING BUGS

Please send bug reports to [?procps@freelists.org?](mailto:procps@freelists.org)

procps-ng

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