



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'idle.2'

\$ man idle.2

idle(2) System Calls Manual idle(2)

NAME

idle - make process 0 idle

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
[[deprecated]] int idle(void);
```

DESCRIPTION

idle() is an internal system call used during bootstrap. It marks the process's pages as swappable, lowers its priority, and enters the main scheduling loop. idle() never returns.

Only process 0 may call idle(). Any user process, even a process with superuser permission, will receive EPERM.

RETURN VALUE

idle() never returns for process 0, and always returns -1 for a user process.

ERRORS

EPERM Always, for a user process.

STANDARDS

Linux.

HISTORY

Removed in Linux 2.3.13.

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