



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'logger.1'

\$ man logger.1

LOGGER(1) User Commands LOGGER(1)

NAME

logger - enter messages into the system log

SYNOPSIS

logger [options] message

DESCRIPTION

logger makes entries in the system log.

When the optional message argument is present, it is written to the log. If it is not present, and the -f option is not given either, then standard input is logged.

OPTIONS

-d, --udp

Use datagrams (UDP) only. By default the connection is tried to the syslog port defined in /etc/services, which is often 514.

See also --server and --socket to specify where to connect.

-e, --skip-empty

Ignore empty lines when processing files. An empty line is defined to be a line without any characters. Thus a line consisting only of whitespace is NOT considered empty. Note that when the --prio-prefix option is specified, the priority is not part of the line.

Thus an empty line in this mode is a line that does not have any characters after the priority prefix (e.g., <13>).

-f, --file file

Log the contents of the specified file. This option cannot be combined with a command-line message.

-i

Log the PID of the logger process with each line.

--id[=id]

Log the PID of the logger process with each line. When the optional argument id is specified, then it is used instead of the logger command's PID. The use of --id=\$\$ (PPID) is recommended in scripts that send several messages.

Note that the system logging infrastructure (for example systemd when listening on /dev/log) may follow local socket credentials to overwrite the PID specified in the message. logger(1) is able to set those socket credentials to the given id, but only if you have root permissions and a process with the specified PID exists, otherwise the socket credentials are not modified and the problem is silently ignored.

--journald[=file]

Write a systemd journal entry. The entry is read from the given file, when specified, otherwise from standard input. Each line must begin with a field that is accepted by journald; see systemd.journal-fields(7) for details. The use of a MESSAGE_ID field is generally a good idea, as it makes finding entries easy. Examples:

```
logger --journald <<end
MESSAGE_ID=67feb6ffbaf24c5cbec13c008dd72309
MESSAGE=The dogs bark, but the caravan goes on.
DOGS=bark
CARAVAN=goes on
end
logger --journald=entry.txt
```

Notice that --journald will ignore values of other options, such as priority. If priority is needed it must be within input, and use PRIORITY field. The simple execution of journalctl(1) will display MESSAGE field. Use journalctl --output json-pretty to see rest of the fields.

To include newlines in MESSAGE, specify MESSAGE several times. This is handled as a special case, other fields will be stored as an array in the journal if they appear multiple times.

--msgid msgid

Sets the RFC 5424 <<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5424>> MSGID field. Note that the space character is not permitted inside of msgid. This option is only used if --rfc5424 is

specified as well; otherwise, it is silently ignored.

`-n, --server server`

Write to the specified remote syslog server instead of to the system log socket. Unless `--udp` or `--tcp` is specified, logger will first try to use UDP, but if this fails a TCP connection is attempted.

`--no-act`

Causes everything to be done except for writing the log message to the system log, and removing the connection to the journal. This option can be used together with `--stderr` for testing purposes.

`--octet-count`

Use the RFC 6587 <<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6587>> octet counting framing method for sending messages. When this option is not used, the default is no framing on UDP, and RFC6587 non-transparent framing (also known as octet stuffing) on TCP.

`-P, --port port`

Use the specified port. When this option is not specified, the port defaults to syslog for udp and to syslog-conn for tcp connections.

`-p, --priority priority`

Enter the message into the log with the specified priority. The priority may be specified numerically or as a facility.level pair. For example, `-p local3.info` logs the message as informational in the local3 facility. The default is user.notice.

`--prio-prefix`

Look for a syslog prefix on every line read from standard input. This prefix is a decimal number within angle brackets that encodes both the facility and the level. The number is constructed by multiplying the facility by 8 and then adding the level. For example, local0.info, meaning facility=16 and level=6, becomes <134>.

If the prefix contains no facility, the facility defaults to what is specified by the `-p` option. Similarly, if no prefix is provided, the line is logged using the priority given with `-p`.

This option doesn't affect a command-line message.

`--rfc3164`

Use the RFC 3164 <<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3164>> BSD syslog protocol to submit messages to a remote server.

`--rfc5424[=without]`

Use the RFC 5424 <<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5424>> syslog protocol to submit messages to a remote server. The optional without argument can be a comma-separated list of the following values: notq, notime, nohost.

The notq value suppresses the time-quality structured data from the submitted message.

The time-quality information shows whether the local clock was synchronized plus the maximum number of microseconds the timestamp might be off. The time quality is also automatically suppressed when `--sd-id timeQuality` is specified.

The notime value (which implies notq) suppresses the complete sender timestamp that is in ISO-8601 format, including microseconds and timezone.

The nohost value suppresses gethostname(2) information from the message header.

The RFC 5424 protocol has been the default for logger since version 2.26.

-s, --stderr

Output the message to standard error as well as to the system log.

```
--sd-id name[@digits]
```

Specifies a structured data element ID for an RFC 5424 message header. The option has to be used before `--sd-param` to introduce a new element. The number of structured data elements is unlimited. The ID (name plus possibly `@digits`) is case-sensitive and uniquely identifies the type and purpose of the element. The same ID must not exist more than once in a message. The `@digits` part is required for user-defined non-standardized IDs.

logger currently generates the timeQuality standardized element only. RFC 5424 also describes the elements origin (with parameters ip, enterpriseld, software and swVersion) and meta (with parameters sequenceld, sysUpTime and language). These element IDs may be specified without the @digits suffix.

`--sd-param name=value`

Specifies a structured data element parameter, a name and value pair. The option has to be used after `--sd-id` and may be specified more than once for the same element. Note that the quotation marks around value are required and must be escaped on the command line.

```
logger --rfc5424 --sd-id zoo@123 \
      --sd-param tiger="hungry" \
      --sd-param zebra="running" \
      --sd-id manager@123 \
```

--sd-param onMeeting="yes" \

"this is message"

produces:

```
<13>1 2015-10-01T14:07:59.168662+02:00 ws kzak - - [timeQuality tzKnown="1" isSynced="1"
syncAccuracy="218616"] [zoo@123 tiger="hungry" zebra="running"] [manager@123
onMeeting="yes"] this is message
```

-S, --size size

Sets the maximum permitted message size to size. The default is 1KiB characters, which is the limit traditionally used and specified in RFC 3164. With RFC 5424, this limit has become flexible. A good assumption is that RFC 5424 receivers can at least process 4KiB messages.

Most receivers accept messages larger than 1KiB over any type of syslog protocol. As such, the --size option affects logger in all cases (not only when --rfc5424 was used).

Note: the message-size limit limits the overall message size, including the syslog header. Header sizes vary depending on the selected options and the hostname length. As a rule of thumb, headers are usually not longer than 50 to 80 characters. When selecting a maximum message size, it is important to ensure that the receiver supports the max size as well, otherwise messages may become truncated. Again, as a rule of thumb two to four KiB message size should generally be OK, whereas anything larger should be verified to work.

--socket-errors mode

Print errors about Unix socket connections. The mode can be on, off, or auto. When the mode is auto (the default), then logger will detect if the init process is systemd(1), and if so, the assumption is made that /dev/log can be used early at boot. The lack of /dev/log on other init systems will not cause errors, just as when using the openlog(3) system call. The logger(1) before version 2.26 used openlog(3), and thus was unable to detect the loss of messages sent to Unix sockets.

When errors are not enabled, lost messages are not communicated and will result in a successful exit status of logger(1).

-T, --tcp

Use stream (TCP) only. By default the connection is tried to the syslog-conn port defined in /etc/services, which is often 601.

See also --server and --socket to specify where to connect.

-t, --tag tag

Mark every line to be logged with the specified tag. The default tag is the name of the user logged in on the terminal (or a user name based on effective user ID).

-u, --socket socket

Write to the specified socket instead of to the system log socket.

--

End the argument list. This allows the message to start with a hyphen (-).

-h, --help

Display help text and exit.

-V, --version

Display version and exit.

EXIT STATUS

The logger utility exits 0 on success, and >0 if an error occurs.

FACILITIES AND LEVELS

Valid facility names are:

auth

authpriv for security information of a sensitive nature

cron

daemon

ftp

kern cannot be generated from userspace process, automatically converted to user

lpr

mail

news

syslog

user

uucp

local0

to

local7

security deprecated synonym for auth

Valid level names are:

emerg

alert

crit

err

warning

notice

info

debug

panic deprecated synonym for emerg

error deprecated synonym for err

warn deprecated synonym for warning

For the priority order and intended purposes of these facilities and levels, see `syslog(3)`.

CONFORMING TO

The `logger` command is expected to be IEEE Std 1003.2 ("POSIX.2") compatible.

EXAMPLES

```
logger System rebooted
```

```
logger -p local0.notice -t HOSTIDM -f /dev/idmc
```

```
logger -n loghost.example.com System rebooted
```

AUTHORS

The `logger` command was originally written by University of California in 1983-1993 and later rewritten by Karel Zak <kzak@redhat.com>, Rainer Gerhards <rgerhards@adiscon.com>, and Sami Kerola <kerolas@iki.fi>.

SEE ALSO

`journalctl(1)`, `syslog(3)`, `systemd.journal-fields(7)`

REPORTING BUGS

For bug reports, use the issue tracker <<https://github.com/util-linux/util-linux/issues>>.

AVAILABILITY

The `logger` command is part of the `util-linux` package which can be downloaded from Linux Kernel Archive <<https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/>>.

util-linux 2.41.3

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