NAME

renice − alter priority of running processes

SYNOPSIS

renice [**−−priority|−−relative**] *priority* [**−g|−p|−u**] *identifier...*

DESCRIPTION

renice alters the scheduling priority of one or more running processes. The first argument is the *priority* value to be used. The other arguments are interpreted as process IDs (by default), process group IDs, user IDs, or user names. **renice**'ing a process group causes all processes in the process group to have their scheduling priority altered. **renice**'ing a user causes all processes owned by the user to have their scheduling priority altered.

If no **−n**, **−−priority** or **−−relative** option is used, then the priority is set as **absolute**.

OPTIONS

−n *priority*
: Specify the **absolute** or **relative** (depending on environment variable POSIXLY_CORRECT) scheduling *priority* to be used for the process, process group, or user. Use of the option **−n** is optional, but when used, it must be the first argument. See **NOTES** for more information.

−−priority *priority*
: Specify an **absolute** scheduling *priority*. *Priority* is set to the given value. This is the default, when no option is specified.

−−relative *priority*
: Specify a **relative** scheduling *priority*. Same as the standard POSIX **−n** option. *Priority* gets *incremented/decremented* by the given value.

−g, **−−pgrp**
: Interpret the succeeding arguments as process group IDs.

−p, **−−pid**
: Interpret the succeeding arguments as process IDs (the default).

−u, **−−user**
: Interpret the succeeding arguments as usernames or UIDs.

−h, **−−help**
: Display help text and exit.

−V, **−−version**
: Display version and exit.

FILES

/etc/passwd
: to map user names to user IDs

NOTES

Users other than the superuser may only alter the priority of processes they own. Furthermore, an unprivileged user can only *increase* the "nice value" (i.e., choose a lower priority) and such changes are irreversible unless (since Linux 2.6.12) the user has a suitable "nice" resource limit (see **ulimit**(1p) and **getrlimit**(2)).

The superuser may alter the priority of any process and set the priority to any value in the range −20 to 19. Useful priorities are: 19 (the affected processes will run only when nothing else in the system wants to), 0 (the "base" scheduling priority), anything negative (to make things go very fast).

For historical reasons in this implementation, the **−n** option did not follow the POSIX specification. Therefore, instead of setting a **relative** priority, it sets an **absolute** priority by default. As this may not be desirable, this behavior can be controlled by setting the environment variable POSIXLY_CORRECT to be fully POSIX compliant. See the **−n** option for details. See **−−relative** and **−−priority** for options that do not change behavior depending on environment variables.

HISTORY

The **renice** command appeared in 4.0BSD.

EXAMPLES

The following command would change the priority of the processes with PIDs 987 and 32, plus all processes owned by the users daemon and root:

renice +1 987 −u daemon root −p 32

SEE ALSO

nice(1), **chrt**(1), **getpriority**(2), **setpriority**(2), **credentials**(7), **sched**(7)

REPORTING BUGS

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

AVAILABILITY

The **renice** 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/>.