

**NAME**

sysctl.conf – sysctl preload/configuration file

**DESCRIPTION**

**sysctl.conf** is a simple file containing sysctl values to be read in and set by **sysctl**. The syntax is simply as follows:

```
# comment
; comment

token = value
```

Note that blank lines are ignored, and whitespace before and after a token or value is ignored, although a value can contain whitespace within. Lines which begin with a # or ; are considered comments and ignored.

If a line begins with a single -, any attempts to set the value that fail will be ignored.

**NOTES**

As the **/etc/sysctl.conf** file is used to override default kernel parameter values, only a small number of parameters is predefined in the file. Use **/sbin/sysctl -a** or follow **sysctl(8)** to list all possible parameters. The description of individual parameters can be found in the kernel documentation.

**EXAMPLE**

```
# sysctl.conf sample
#
kernel.domainname = example.com
; this one has a space which will be written to the sysctl!
kernel.modprobe = /sbin/mod probe
```

**FILES**

```
/run/sysctl.d/*.conf
/etc/sysctl.d/*.conf
/usr/local/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf
/usr/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf
/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf
/etc/sysctl.conf
```

The paths where sysctl preload files usually exist. See also sysctl option **--system**.

**SEE ALSO**

**sysctl(8)**

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**REPORTING BUGS**

Please send bug reports to <procps@freelists.org>