

NAME

ps – process status

SYNOPSIS

ps [**alx**]

DESCRIPTION

Ps prints certain indicia about active processes. The **a** flag asks for information about all processes with teletypes (ordinarily only one's own processes are displayed); **x** asks even about processes with no typewriter; **l** asks for a long listing. Ordinarily only the typewriter number (if not one's own) and the process number are given.

The long listing is columnar and contains

A number encoding the state (last digit) and flags (first 1 or 2 digits) of the process.

The priority of the process; high numbers mean low priority.

A number related in some unknown way to the scheduling heuristic.

The last character of the control typewriter of the process.

The process unique number (as in certain cults it is possible to kill a process if you know its true name).

The size in blocks of the core image of the process.

The last column if non-blank tells the core address in the system of the event which the process is waiting for; if blank, the process is running.

Unfortunately if you have forgotten the number of a process you will have to guess which one it is. Plain *ps* will tell you only a list of numbers.

FILES

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| /usr/sys/unix | system namelist |
| /dev/mem | resident system |

SEE ALSO

kill(I)

BUGS

The ability to see, even if dimly, the name by which the process was invoked would be welcome.