

**NAME**

nice – set program priority

**SYNOPSIS**

(nice = 34.)  
(priority in r0)  
**sys nice**  
**nice(priority)**

**DESCRIPTION**

The scheduling *priority* of the process is changed to the argument. Positive priorities get less service than normal; 0 is default. Only the super-user may specify a negative priority. The valid range of *priority* is 20 to -220. The value of 4 is recommended to users who wish to execute long-running programs without flak from the administration.

The effect of this call is passed to a child process by the *fork* system call. The effect can be cancelled by another call to *nice* with a *priority* of 0.

The actual running priority of a process is the *priority* argument plus a number that ranges from 100 to 119 depending on the cpu usage of the process.

**SEE ALSO**

nice (I)

**DIAGNOSTICS**

The error bit (c-bit) is set if the user requests a *priority* outside the range of 0 to 20 and is not the super-user.