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 .

-e, **--skip-empty**

When processing files, empty lines will be ignored. 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 (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.

--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:

> **printf %sn%sn%sn MESSAGE_ID=42 DOGS=bark CARAVAN=goes on | logger --journ**
> **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** will display MESSAGE field. Use **journalctl --output json-pretty** to see rest of the fields.

--msgid *MSGID*

Sets the 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.

--no-act

Causes everything to be done except for the write the log message to the system log, remove connection or journal. This options is usable together with **--stderr** for testing purpose.

--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 larger than 1KiB message 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 options selected and hostname length. As a rule of thumb, headers are usually not longer than 50 to 80 characters. When selecting 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.

-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 thist fails a TCP connection is attempted.

-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 BSD syslog protocol to submit messages to a remote server.

--rfc5424[=*without*]
> Use the RFC 5424 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 **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.

-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*.

-t, **--tag** *tag*
>   Mark every line to be logged with the specified *tag*.

-u, **--socket** *socket*
>   Write to the specified *socket* instead of to the system log socket.

--socket-errors[=*mode*]
>   Print errors about Unix socket connections. The *mode* can be a value of **off**, **on**, or **auto**. When the mode is auto logger will detect if the init process is systemd, and if so assumption is made /dev/log can be used early at boot. Other init systems lack of /dev/log will not cause errors that is identical with messaging using openlog(3) system call. The logger(1) before version 2.26 used openlog, and hence was inable to detected loss of messages sent to Unix sockets.
>
>   The default mode is **auto**. When errors are not enabled lost messages are not communicated and will result to successful return value of logger(1) invocation.

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

-V, **--version**
>   Display version information and exit.

-h, **--help**
>   Display help text and exit.

RETURN VALUE
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 user process
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).

EXAMPLES

logger System rebooted
logger -p local0.notice -t HOSTIDM -f /dev/idmc
logger -n loghost.example.com System rebooted

SEE ALSO

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

STANDARDS

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

AVAILABILITY

The logger command is part of the util-linux package and is available from Linux Kernel Archive.