

**NAME**

killpg - send signal to a process group

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <signal.h>
```

```
int killpg(int pgrp, int sig);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature\\_test\\_macros\(7\)](#)):

```
killpg():
```

```
  _BSD_SOURCE || _XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500 ||  
  _XOPEN_SOURCE && _XOPEN_SOURCE_EXTENDED
```

**DESCRIPTION**

**killpg()** sends the signal *sig* to the process group *pgrp*. See [signal\(7\)](#) for a list of signals.

If *pgrp* is 0, **killpg()** sends the signal to the calling process's process group. (POSIX says: If *pgrp* is less than or equal to 1, the behavior is undefined.)

For a process to have permission to send a signal it must either be privileged (under Linux: have the **CAP\_KILL** capability), or the real or effective user ID of the sending process must equal the real or saved set-user-ID of the target process. In the case of **SIGCONT** it suffices when the sending and receiving processes belong to the same session.

**RETURN VALUE**

On success, zero is returned. On error, -1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

**ERRORS****EINVAL**

*sig* is not a valid signal number.

**EPERM**

The process does not have permission to send the signal to any of the target processes.

**ESRCH**

No process can be found in the process group specified by *pgrp*.

**ESRCH**

The process group was given as 0 but the sending process does not have a process group.

**CONFORMING TO**

SVr4, 4.4BSD (the **killpg()** function call first appeared in 4BSD), POSIX.1-2001.

**NOTES**

There are various differences between the permission checking in BSD-type systems and System V-type systems. See the POSIX rationale for **kill()**. A difference not mentioned by POSIX concerns the return value **EPERM**: BSD documents that no signal is sent and **EPERM** returned when the permission check failed for at least one target process, while POSIX documents **EPERM** only when the permission check failed for all target processes.

On Linux, **killpg()** is implemented as a library function that makes the call *kill(-pgrp, sig)*.

**SEE ALSO**

[getpgrp\(2\)](#), [kill\(2\)](#), [signal\(2\)](#), [capabilities\(7\)](#), [credentials\(7\)](#)

**COLOPHON**

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