

NAME

service - run a System V init script

SYNOPSIS

service *SCRIPT COMMAND* [*OPTIONS*]

service --status-all

service --help | -h | --version

DESCRIPTION

service runs a System V init script, systemd unit, or upstart job in as predictable an environment as possible, removing most environment variables and with the current working directory set to *.*

The *SCRIPT* parameter specifies a System V init script, located in */etc/init.d/SCRIPT*, or the name of a systemd unit, or the name of an upstart job in */etc/init*. The existence of a systemd unit or upstart job of the same name as a script in */etc/init.d* will cause the unit/job to take precedence over the *init.d* script. The supported values of *COMMAND* depend on the invoked script. **service** passes *COMMAND* and *OPTIONS* to the init script unmodified. For systemd units or upstart jobs, *start*, *stop*, *status*, and *reload* are passed through to their *systemctl/initctl* equivalents. For upstart jobs, *restart* will call the upstart 'stop' for the job, followed immediately by the 'start', and will exit with the return code of the start command.

All scripts should support at least the **start** and **stop** commands. As a special case, if *COMMAND* is **--full-restart**, the script is run twice, first with the **stop** command, then with the **start** command. This option has no effect on upstart jobs.

service --status-all runs all init scripts, in alphabetical order, with the **status** command. The status is [+] for running services, [-] for stopped services and [?] for services without a 'status' command. This option only calls status for *sysvinit* jobs; upstart jobs can be queried in a similar manner with **initctl list**.

EXIT CODES

service calls the init script and returns the status returned by it.

FILES

/etc/init.d

The directory containing System V init scripts.

/etc/init

The directory containing upstart jobs.

/[lib,run,etc]/systemd/system

The directories containing systemd units.

ENVIRONMENT

LANG, **LANGUAGE**, **LC_CTYPE**, **LC_NUMERIC**, **LC_TIME**, **LC_COLLATE**, **LC_MONETARY**, **LC_MESSAGES**, **LC_PAPER**, **LC_NAME**, **LC_ADDRESS**, **LC_TELEPHONE**, **LC_MEASUREMENT**, **LC_IDENTIFICATION**, **LC_ALL**, **TERM**, **PATH**

The only environment variables passed to the init scripts.

SEE ALSO

/etc/init.d/skeleton,

[update-rc.d\(8\)](#),

[init\(8\)](#),

[invoke-rc.d\(8\)](#).

[systemctl\(1\)](#).

[initctl\(8\)](#).