

NAME

sysctl - configure kernel parameters at runtime

SYNOPSIS

sysctl [*options*] [*variable*[=*value*]] [...]

sysctl -p [*file* or *regexp*] [...]

DESCRIPTION

sysctl is used to modify kernel parameters at runtime. The parameters available are those listed under `/proc/sys/`. Procs is required for **sysctl** support in Linux. You can use **sysctl** to both read and write sysctl data.

PARAMETERS

variable

The name of a key to read from. An example is `kernel.ostype`. The `'/'` separator is also accepted in place of a `'.'`.

variable=value

To set a key, use the form *variable=value* where *variable* is the key and *value* is the value to set it to. If the value contains quotes or characters which are parsed by the shell, you may need to enclose the value in double quotes. This requires the **-w** parameter to use.

-n, --values

Use this option to disable printing of the key name when printing values.

-e, --ignore

Use this option to ignore errors about unknown keys.

-N, --names

Use this option to only print the names. It may be useful with shells that have programmable completion.

-q, --quiet

Use this option to not display the values set to stdout.

-w, --write

Use this option when you want to change a sysctl setting.

-p[*FILE*], --load[=*FILE*]

Load in sysctl settings from the file specified or `/etc/sysctl.conf` if none given. Specifying `-` as filename means reading data from standard input. Using this option will mean arguments to **sysctl** are files, which are read in the order they are specified. The file argument may be specified as regular expression.

-a, --all Display all values currently available.

--deprecated

Include deprecated parameters to **--all** values listing.

-b, --binary

Print value without new line.

--system

Load settings from all system configuration files.

`/run/sysctl.d/*.conf`

`/etc/sysctl.d/*.conf`

`/usr/local/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf`

`/usr/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf`

`/lib/sysctl.d/*.conf`

`/etc/sysctl.conf`

- r, --pattern *pattern***
Only apply settings that match *pattern*. The *pattern* uses extended regular expression syntax.
- A** Alias of **-a**
- d** Alias of **-h**
- f** Alias of **-p**
- X** Alias of **-a**
- o** Does nothing, exists for BSD compatibility.
- x** Does nothing, exists for BSD compatibility.
- h, --help**
Display help text and exit.
- V, --version**
Display version information and exit.

EXAMPLES

```
/sbin/sysctl -a
/sbin/sysctl -n kernel.hostname
/sbin/sysctl -w kernel.domainname="example.com"
/sbin/sysctl -p/etc/sysctl.conf
/sbin/sysctl -a --pattern forward
/sbin/sysctl -a --pattern forward$
/sbin/sysctl -a --pattern 'net.ipv4.conf.(eth|wlan)0.arp'
/sbin/sysctl --system --pattern '^net.ipv6'
```

DEPRECATED PARAMETERS

The **base_reachable_time** and **retrans_time** are deprecated. The `sysctl` command does not allow changing values of these parameters. Users who insist to use deprecated kernel interfaces should push values to `/proc` file system by other means. For example:

```
echo 256 > /proc/sys/net/ipv6/neigh/eth0/base_reachable_time
```

FILES

```
/proc/sys
/etc/sysctl.conf
```

SEE ALSO

[sysctl.conf\(5\)](#) [regex\(7\)](#)

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REPORTING BUGS

Please send bug reports to [Unknown](#)