Configuration

Configuration File

/etc/inittab

Configuration Syntax

id:2:initdefault:
id - A unique indentifier
2 - The applicable runlevel number
initdefault - The action that init should take
(optional) A command to execute

Configuration Directories

/etc/init.d/
/etc/rc$.d/

Starting and Stopping Services

To start and stop services by hand, use the script in the /etc/init.d directory. For example, one way to start the httpd daemon manually is to run /etc/init.d/httpd start. Similarly, to kill a running service, you can use the stop argument. See, /etc/init.d/httpd for supported argument.

Inittab Actions

wait	Determine when and how System V init runs the command
respawn	Run the command that follows and, if the command finishes executing, to run it again
ctrlaltdel	Controls what the system does when you press CTRL + ALT + DEL
sysinit	Run this action except when in emergency mode
initde-fault	This is the default action

Runlevels

0	Halt
1	Single-user text mode
2	Not used (user-definable)
3	Full multi-user text mode
4	Not used (user-definable)
5	Full multi-user graphical mode (with an X-based login screen)
6	Reboot

Link Farm

The contents of the rc*.d directories are actually symbolic links to files in yet another directory, init.d. A large number of symbolic links across several subdirectories such as this is called a link farm.

Controlling System V init

telinit 3	Switch to runlevel 3
telinit q	Reload inittab file
telinit s	Switch to single-user mode