

Configuration

Configuration File

/etc/inittab

Configuration Syntax

id:2:initdefault:

id - A unique identifier

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



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Page 1 of 1.

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