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text mode (Lynx, Printer) tables arranged to 110 chars/line.

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[Syscalls pages](#) archive (110K->1M), [updated \(2.3.0, ver. 1.66\) man 2 pages](#) (170K->1,2M)

- [Fight Patents abuse](#) by EC authorities - [Gegen Patentmißbrauch](#) durch die EU-Behörden.

- syscall-no. in **eax**; args left to right in **ebx,ecx,edx,esi,edi(,ebp)**, all preserved.
- returned 0xffff000 < eax <= 0xffffffff may be an error code (-4096 < eax < 0).
- **Common reference:**
 - [<unistd.h>](#), [<linux/types.h>](#), [<asm/types.h>](#), [<asm/posix_types.h>](#), and [<linux/kernel.h>](#) for [data structures](#).
 - The syscall interface is defined in [arch/i386/kernel/entry.S](#), symbols for loadable modules [kernel/ksyms.c](#).
 - Error numbers and messages in [include/asm/errno.h](#).
 - Basic [data types](#)
short: word (16bit), **int**: dword (32bit), **long**: dword (32bit), **pointer**: dword (32bit).

P	exit	int status	1
	terminate current process		
	arg	eax	1
		ebx	exit code
	return	eax	-/-
	errors	eax	-/-
	source		kernel/exit.c

P	fork	struct pt_regs	2
	create a child process resource; resource utilizations:=0, file locks & pending signals not inherited. simplified " clone " w/ flags set to SIGCHLD and caller's ESP		
	arg	eax	2
		ebx...	all register values passed to duplicate job
	return	eax	clone : zero caller: pid_t pid (dword) or, -ve error code
	errors	EAGAIN, ENOMEM	

ref [linux/sched.h](#), [asm/ptrace.h](#).
 source [arch/i386/kernel/process.c](#), [kernel/fork.c](#)

P [read](#) int fd, void *buf, [size_t](#) count 3
 read up to count bytes from file fd into buffer *buf
 arg eax 3
 ebx file descriptor
 ecx ptr to input buffer
 edx buffer size, max. count of bytes to receive
 return eax no. of bytes received, file pointer advanced accordingly
 errors eax EAGAIN, EBADF, EFAULT, EINTR, EINVAL, EIO, EISDIR
 note that "buffer overflow" is not immanent to the system call but,
 was introduced by ignorant "programming" rsp (lib)"C" useage/design...
 source [fs/read_write.c](#)

P [write](#) int fd, void *buf, [size_t](#) count, 4
 write (up to) count bytes of data from *buf to file fd
 arg eax 4
 ebx file descriptor
 ecx ptr to output buffer
 edx count of bytes to send
 return eax no. of sent bytes (if POSIX conforming f.s.)
 errors eax EAGAIN, EBADF, EFAULT, EINTR, EINVAL, EIO, ENOSPC, EPIPE
 source [fs/read_write.c](#)

P [open](#) const char *pathname, int flags, mode_t mode 5
 open a file or device, create/truncate if corresponding mode flag(s) set
 arg eax 5
 ebx ptr to asciz abs or rel pathname
 ecx file access [bits](#)
 edx file permissions, [mode](#)
 return eax int fd (16bit filedescriptor)
 errors eax ACCESS, EXIST, FAULT, ISDIR, LOOP, MFILE,
 NAMETOOLONG, NFILE, NOENT, NODEV, NODIR,
 NOMEM, NOSPC, NXIO, ROFS, TXTBSY
 ref [linux/types.h](#), [linux/posix_types.h](#), [linux/stat.h](#) -re- [struct stat](#),
[asm/fcntl.h](#), [asm/types.h](#), [asm/posix_types.h](#),
[fcntl.h](#), [sys/stat.h](#). [sys/types.h](#)
 source [fs/open.c](#)

[file access bits](#)

O_ACCMODE 0003
 O_RDONLY 00
 O_WRONLY 01
 O_RDWR 02
 O_CREAT 0100
 O_EXCL 0200
 O_NOCTTY 0400
 O_TRUNC 01000
 O_APPEND 02000
 O_NONBLOCK 04000
 O_NDELAY O_NONBLOCK
 O_SYNC 010000 specific to ext2 fs and block devices
 FASYNC 020000 fcntl, for BSD compatibility
 O_DIRECT 040000 direct disk access hint - currently ignored
 O_LARGEFILE 0100000
 O_DIRECTORY 0200000 must be a directory
 O_NOFOLLOW 0400000 don't follow links

file permissions flags

S_ISUID 04000 set user ID on execution
 S_ISGID 02000 set group ID on execution
 S_ISVTX 01000 sticky bit
 S_IRUSR 00400 read by owner (S_IREAD)
 S_IWUSR 00200 write by owner (S_IWRITE)
 S_IXUSR 00100 execute/search by owner (S_IEXEC)
 S_IRGRP 00040 read by group
 S_IWGRP 00020 write by group
 S_IXGRP 00010 execute/search by group
 S_IROTH 00004 read by others ([R_OK](#))
 S_IWOTH 00002 write by others ([W_OK](#))
 S_IXOTH 00001 execute/search by others ([X_OK](#))

S_IRWXUGO (S_IRWXU|S_IRWXG|S_IRWXO) -re- [umask](#)
 S_IALLUGO (S_ISUID|S_ISGID|S_ISVTX|S_IRWXUGO)
 S_IRUGO (S_IRUSR|S_IRGRP|S_IROTH)
 S_IWUGO (S_IWUSR|S_IWGRP|S_IWOTH)
 S_IXUGO (S_IXUSR|S_IXGRP|S_IXOTH)

P	close	int fd	6
		close a file by fd reference	
	arg	eax	6
		ebx	file descriptor
	return	eax	-/-
	errors	eax	EBADF (-1)
	source	fs/open.c	

[waitpid](#) [pid_t](#) pid, int *status, int options 7

wait for a specified child process termination; simplified call to [wait4](#)

arg	eax	7
	ebx	2nd-ary process id or specification
	ecx	NULL or, ptr to buf for exited 2nd-ary job status
	edx	option flags, zero or WNOHANG, WUNTRACED
return	eax	pid_t , pid of 2ndary job which exited
	ecx	if buffer supplied, exit state of 2nd-ary job
errors	eax	CHILD, INVAL, RESTARTSYS
ref	libc: sys/wait.h, wait.c &c, [types]	
source	kernel/exit.c	

creat	const char *pathname	mode_t mode	8
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create a file

arg	eax	8
	ebx	ptr to asciz abs or rel pathname
	ecx	file permissions, mode
return	eax	int fd filedescriptor
errors	eax	access, exist, fault, isdir, loop, mfile, nametoolong nfile, noent, nodev, nodir, nomem, nospc, nxio rofs, txtbsy

ref [\[types\]](#), [sys/stat.h](#), [fcntl.h](#)

source [fs/open.c](#)

note `sys_creat` is identical to [sys_open](#) w. `O_CREAT|O_WRONLY|O_TRUNC` flags.

P	link	const char *oldpath	const char *newpath	9
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create hard link to an existing file

arg	eax	9
	ebx	ptr to asciz abs or rel name of existing file
	ecx	ptr to asciz abs or rel name of new file-name
return	eax	-/-
errors	eax	acces, io, perm, exist, fault, loopmlink, nametoolong, noent, nomem, nospc, notdir, perm, rofs, xdev

ref -/-

source [fs/namei.c](#)

P	unlink	const char *pathname	10
---	------------------------	----------------------	----

delete a name and remove file when not busy

arg	eax	10
	ebx	ptr to asciz abs or rel file-name

return eax -/-
 errors eax acces, fault, io, isdir, loop, nametoolong,
 noent, nomem, notdir, perm, rofs
 ref -/-
 source [fs/namei.c](#)

P [execve](#) const char *filename, char const argv[], char const envp[] 11
 execute a program
 arg eax: 11
 ebx: ptr to <nul> terminated string of program path&name
 ecx: ptr to zero terminated list of ptrs to <nul> terminated program argument stgs
 edx: ptr to zero terminated list of ptrs to <nul> terminated environment strings
 return no return, executed prog inherits resources and overwrites caller
 errors eax: 2big, acces, inval, io, isdir, libbad loop, nfile, noexec, noent,
 nomem, notdir, fault, nametoolong, perm, txtbusy
 ref [arch/i386/kernel/process.c](#)
 note waiting caller of a "fork"ed or "clone"d job
 being released immediately after entry to execve.

P [chdir](#) const char *path 12
 change working directory
 arg eax 12
 ebx ptr to asciz abs or rel file-name
 return eax -/-
 errors eax acces, badf, fault, io, loop, nametoolong, noent, nomem, notdir
 ref -/-
 source [fs/open.c](#)

[time](#) [time_t](#) *t 13
 get time in seconds since 1-jan-1970
 arg eax 13
 ebx NULL or, ptr to buffer which receives a copy of the return value
 return eax ((time_t)-1) seconds
 errors eax fault
 ref [linux/time.h](#)
 source [kernel/time.c](#)

P [mknod](#) const char *pathname mode_t mode dev_t dev 14

create a filesystem node (file, device, special file, named pipe)

return -/

errors acces, exist, fault, inval, loop, nametoolong,
noent, nomem, nospc, notdir, perm, rofs

ref [sys/stat.h](#) (mode flags), [fcntl.h](#), [\[types\]](#)

source [fs/namei.c](#); [include/linux/major.h](#), [Documentation/devices.txt](#)

P [chmod](#) const char *path [mode_t mode](#) 15

change file permissions (attributes)

return -/

errors acces, badf, fault, io, loop, nametoolong,
noent, nomem, notdir, perm, rofs

ref [\[types\]](#), [sys/stat.h](#), [asm/stat.h](#)

source [fs/open.c](#)

-re- [access mode flags](#)

[lchown](#) const char *path [uid_t owner](#) [gid_t group](#) 16

change owner of a file, don't follow symbolic links

return -/

errors (many...)

source [fs/open.c](#)

[break](#)

17

n.i.

[oldstat](#)

18

(abandoned)

P [lseek](#) int fd [off_t offset](#) int whence 19

change file pointer of file ref-d by fd

arg

eax 19

ebx file descriptor

ecx disp to the rsp. file position -re - "whence"

edx "whence" flag, either one of
SEEK_SET 0 add disp to beginning of file,
SEEK_CUR 1 add disp to current position,

SEEK_END 2 add disp to end of file.
 return eax off_t ptr posn. re beginning of file
 errors eax badf, inval, ispipe
 ref [unistd.h](#), [linux/unistd.h](#), [\[types\]](#)
 source [fs/read_write.c](#)

[getpid](#) void 20
 get pid of current process
 return [pid_t](#) pid
 errors -/
 source [kernel/sched.c](#)

P [mount](#) c ch *specialfile c ch *dir c ch *fstype ul rwflag c v *data 21
 mount a filesystem
 arg eax 21
 ebx ptr to asciz name of device/specialfile
 ecx ptr to asciz name of mount-point
 edx ptr to asciz name of file system type
 flags esi MS_MGC_MSK 0xC0ED in m.s. 16-bit; 'magic', required till 2.4.0-t9
 MS_RDONLY 1 Mount read-only
 MS_NOSUID 2 Ignore suid and sgid bits
 MS_NODEV 4 Disallow access to device special files
 MS_NOEXEC 8 Disallow program execution
 MS_SYNCHRONOUS 16 Writes are synced at once
 MS_REMOUNT 32 Alter flags of a mounted FS
 MS_MANDLOCK 64 Allow mandatory locks on an FS
 MS_NOATIME 1024 Do not update access times
 MS_NODIRATIME 2048 Do not update directory access times
 MS_BIND 4096
 MS_REC 16384
 MS_VERBOSE 32768
 MS_ACTIVE (1<<30)
 MS_NOUSER (1<<31)
 edi ptr to device independent, additional data (max. page-size)
 return eax -/
 errors eax any which can occur in the particular f.s. or, in the kernel
K4+ multiple **identical mounts apparently not considered an error**, any more, which, could result to quite dangerous situations, e.g. after single user emergency startup, where the entire file system might become mounted on the root device!

ref sys/mount.h [linux/mount.h](#) [linux/fs.h](#)
 source [fs/super.c](#), [fs/namespace.c](#) (2.4)

[umount](#) K4:oldumount const char *specialfile | *dir 22

unmount a filesystem

return -/-

errors any which can occur in the particular f.s. or, in the kernel

ref sys/mount.h, [/proc/filesystems](#), [umount2](#)

source [fs/super.c](#), [fs/namespace.c](#) (2.4)

NOTE inconsistently def'd wrt prior sources in kernel 2.4.18!
 according to 2.4.18 explanation 'oldumount' executes (new) 'mount *device,0'
 [hp] 2.4.18 variant found to not operating on (linked) device files, any more.

P [setuid](#) [uid_t](#) uid 23

set real user id

return -/-

errors eperm

source [kernel/sys.c](#)

P [getuid](#) void 24

get real user id

return [uid_t](#) uid

errors -/-

ref [unistd.h](#), [linux/unistd.h](#), [\[types\]](#)

source [kernel/sched.c](#)

[stime](#) [time_t](#) *t 25

set secinds since 1-jan-1970

return -/-

errors eperm

ref time.h

source [kernel/time.c](#)

[ptrace](#) long request, [pid_t](#) pid, long addr, long data 26
 trace a child process
 arg eax 26

	ebx	requested action	
	ecx	process id of the target job	"child"
	edx	address in target job	"address"
	esi	address in tracing job	"data"
return	eax	as specified by the request	
errors	io, fault, perm, srch		
ref	linux/ptrace.h , asm/ptrace.h , linux/sched.h , asm/user.h ,		
source	arch/i386/kernel/ptrace.c		

[requests](#) PTRACE_.. ret

0. PEEKTEXT pid,addr,*data read word at location addr.
1. PEEKDATA pid,addr,*data read the word at location addr in the USER area.
2. PEEKUSR pid,addr,*data "
3. POKETEXT pid,addr,*data write the word at location addr.
4. POKEDATA pid,addr,*data "
5. POKEUSR pid,addr,*data write the word at location addr in the USER area
6. TRACEME -/- set the ptrace bit in the process flags.
7. CONT pid,,signo restart after signal.
8. KILL pid make the child exit, send it a sigkill.
9. SINGLESTEP pid sigtrap set the trap flag.
10. n.n.
11. n.n.
12. GETREGS pid,,*data get all gp regs from the child. re [register](#).
13. SETREGS pid,,*data set all gp regs in the child.
14. GETFPREGS pid,,*data get the child FPU state.
15. SETFPREGS pid,,*data set the child FPU state.
16. ATTACH pid attach to already running process
17. DETACH pid detach a process that was attached.
18. K4 GETFPXREGS pid,,*data get the child extended FPU state.
19. K4 SETFPXREGS pid,,*data set the child extended FPU state.
20. n.n.
21. K4 SETOPTIONS pid,,data -no comment- (option 'PTRACE_O_TRACESYSGOOD' or none)
22. n.n.
23. n.n.
24. SYSCALL pid,,signo continue and stop at next (return from) syscall

[registers](#)

0. EBX
1. ECX
2. EDX
3. ESI
4. EDI
5. EBP
6. EAX
7. DS
8. ES
9. FS
10. GS
11. ORIG_EAX
12. EIP
13. CS
14. EFL

- 15. UESP
- 16. SS
- 17. FRAME_SIZE

P [alarm](#) u int seconds 27

send SIGALARM at a specified time

return 0 or unsigned int seconds until prev. alarms are due to execute

errors -/-

source [kernel/sched.c](#)
 sys_alarm is a simplified call to [sys_setitimer](#).

[oldfstat](#) 28

(abandoned)

[pause](#) void 29

sleep until signal

return EINTR if signal caught

errors restartnohand

source [kernel/sched.c](#)

P [utime](#) char *filename struct utimbuf *buf 30

change access and/or modification time of an inode

return -/-

errors acces, noent

ref sys/time.h, utime.h, [\[types\]](#)

source [fs/open.c](#)

[stty](#) n.i. 31

[gtty](#) n.i. 32

P [access](#) const char *pathname int mode 33
 check user's permissions for a file
 arg eax 33
 ebx ptr to asciz string w. path name
 ecx mode flags, [R_OK, W_OK, X_OK](#), F_OK = 0, re 'open'
 return eax -/
 errors eax all f.s. and file access related errors can occur
 source [fs/open.c](#), libc/gcc "[unistd.h](#)"

[nice](#) int inc 34
 change process priority
 return -/
 errors perm
 source [kernel/sched.c](#)

[ftime](#) 35
 n.i.

P [sync](#) void 36
 commit buffer cache to disk
 return always 0
 errors -/
 source [fs/buffer.c](#)

P [kill](#) [pid_t](#) pid int sig 37
 send a signal to a process
 return -/
 errors inval, perm, srch
 ref [kernel/sys.c](#)
 source [kernel/signal.c](#), [\[more\]](#)

pid	signal sent to
> 0	process {pid}
0	every process in caller's process group
-1	all processes but the very first
< -1	every process in group {gid} ("killpg", re getgid)

no action if sig = 0, but error checking occurs, i.e.
 this can be used to check whether a process exists.

note: re [mknod](#) for named pipes.

times	struct tms *buf	43
get process times		
return	-/-	
errors	-/-	
ref	sys/times.h	
source	kernel/sys.c	

prof		44
	n.i.	

P	brk	void *end_data_segment	45
change data section size, top of .bss			
arg	eax	45	
	ebx	(virtual) address of new .bss top in range of data-space bottom and, below any linked library or 16K below .ss bottom, rsp, within the limits of the owner process' data size - re getrlimit .	
	ebx := 0	can be used to finding the currently valid top address of .bbs.	
return eax currently, after call valid top address			
errors	eax	nomem	
source		mm/mmap.c	

P	setgid	gid_t gid	46
set real group id of current process			
return		-/-	
errors		perm	
source		kernel/sys.c	

P	getgid	void	47
get real group id of current process			
return		gid_t gid	
errors		-/-	

<manpages-1.50> include ref to "umount2" by 'man 2 umount'

NOTE: renamed to "umount" w. kernel 2.4.18(+?); from the source file:

"Now umount can handle mount points as well as block devices. This is important for filesystems which use unnamed block devices. We now support a flag for forced unmount like the other 'big iron' unixes. Our API is identical to OSF/1 to avoid making a mess of AMD.

[lock](#)

53

n.i.

P [ioctl](#) int fd int request char *argp 54
 manipulate a character device
 arg eax 54
 ebx file descriptor
 ecx command code
 edx ptr to writable data area or other arg structure
 return eax zero on success
 errors eax badf, fault, inval, notty
 ref [asm/ioctl.h](#) - [ioctl](#) page.
 source [fs/ioctl.c](#)
 for instance, console ioctls provide many nice features - most of which aren't overly helpful because, all(!) consoles would globally be affected!

[fcntl](#) int fd int cmd [[struct flock](#) *lock] 55
 file/-descriptor control
 arg eax 55
 ebx file descriptor
 ecx command code
 edx file locks: ptr to writable [struct flock](#)
 return eax according to the rsp command
 errors eax acces, again, badf, deadlk, fault, intr, inval, mfilem nolock, perm
 ref [fcntl](#) page.
 source [fs/fcntl.c](#), [unistd.h](#), [linux/unistd.h](#), [fcntl.h](#).

[mpx](#)

56

n.i.

P	setpgid	pid_t pid	pid_t pgid	57
	set process group id			
	return	-/-		
	errors	inval, perm, srch		
	source	kernel/sys.c		

ulimit	int cmd	(...)	58	libc
get/set resource limits - not a system call				
ref	syscalls setrlimit , getrlimit			
ref (glibc2)	man (3) ulimit, sysdeps/generic/ulimit.c , sysdeps/unix/sysv/linux/ulimit.c			
NOTE:	not a kernel syscall			

oldolduname		59
(syscall removed)		
source	utsname.h , struct oldold utsname	

umask	mode_t mask	60
set file creation mask		
arg	eax	60
	ebx	file creation permissions, masked w. S_IRWXUGO by kernel code
return	eax	mode_t previously valid mask
errors	-/-	
ref	sys/stat.h , [types]	
source	kernel/sys.c	

P	chroot	const char *path	61
	change root directory (tree)		
	return	-/-	
	errors	any, dependent on f.s. type	
	source	fs/open.c	

ustat	62
n.i. - libc call	

P [dup2](#) int oldfd int newfd 63
duplicate file descriptor oldfd, on success replace newfd w/ duplicated.

arg	eax	63
	ebx	file descriptor to duplicate
	ecx	file descriptor which the duplicate should be assigned to
return	eax	duplicate fd
errors	eax	badf, mfile
source	fs/fcntl.c	
note	dup2 as well as dup assign new fd-s but don't duplicate the channel's description, any modification, e.g by an ioctl, would affect all instances of a resp. fd! 'newfd' will be closed prior to re-assignment, if applicable.	

P [getppid](#) void 64
get parent process id

arg	eax	64
return	eax	pid_t pid
errors	-/-	
source	kernel/sched.c	

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H.-Peter Recktenwald, Berlin, 18.Feb.2000 = .hpr.io = 12/20/2010 10:07:07 : 