

NAME

who - who is on the system

SYNOPSIS

who [**-rbtpluda**] [who-like file]

who [**am i**]

DESCRIPTION

Who, without an argument, lists the name, whether the user can write to the line, line id, login time, how long since output occurred to line, and the process id of the command interpreter(shell) for each current UNIX user. *Who* with the **am i** option identifies the user.

Without an argument, *who* examines the */etc/utmp* file to obtain its information. If a file is given, that file is examined. Typically the given file will be */etc/wtmp*, which contains a record of all the logins since it was created.

The general format for all entries is:

name [*state*] *line* *time* *activity* *pid* [*loc*|*id*] [*exit*]

With switches *who* will list logins, logouts, reboots, and modifications of the system clock, as well as other processes spawned by the *init* process.

- u This is the default option and lists only those users who are currently logged in. The *name* is the user's login name. The *state* describes whether someone else can write to that terminal. A '+' appears if the terminal is writable by anyone. A '-' appears if it is not. If the person executing the *who* command is *root*, then an 'x' will appear for lines which have the *exclusive use* bit set and thus are not writable by *root*. All other lines will have a '+' or '-' as is appropriate. *Root* can write to all lines having a '+' or a '-'. If a bad line is encountered, a '?' is printed. The *line* is the name of the line as found in the directory */dev*. The *time* is the time that the user logged in. The *activity* is the number of hours and minutes since output last went to that particular line. A '.' indicates that the terminal has seen activity in the last minute and is therefore "current". If more than twenty-four hours elapse, the entry is marked 'old'. This field is useful when trying to determine whether a person is working at the terminal or not. The *pid* is the process id of the user's shell. The *loc* field is the comment field associated with this line as found in */etc/inittab*. This is usually contains information about where the terminal is located.
- l This option lists only those lines on which the system is waiting for someone to login. The *name* field is **LOGIN** in such cases. Other fields are the same as for user entries except that the *state* field doesn't exist.
- p This option lists any other process which is currently active and has been previously spawned by *init*. The *name* field is the name of the program executed by *init* as found in */etc/inittab*. The *state*, *line*, and *activity* fields have no meaning. The *loc* field is replaced with the *id* field, which is the first two characters of the line in */etc/inittab* that spawned this process.
- d This option displays all processes that have expired and not been respawned by *init*. The *exit* field appears for dead processes and contains the exit status of the dead process. This can be useful in determining why a process terminated.
- b lists the last instance of a hardware boot successfully invoking the *init* process.
- r indicates the run state *init* has been placed in.
- t lists changes to the system clock and who made them.
- a lists all options.

FILES

/etc/utmp
/etc/wtmp
/etc/inittab

SEE ALSO

date(1), init(1M), login(1), mesg(1), inittab(5), utmp(5)

