

Linux Command-kill

In Linux, a process is an instance of a program that is running. The `kill` command is used to send signals to processes, which can be used to terminate, stop, or suspend them.

Kill Command Syntax:

```
kill [options] <process_id>
```

Example 1: Terminating a Process

Let's say we have a process with ID 1234 running in the background. We can kill it using the following command:

```
$ kill 1234
```

This will send a SIGTERM signal to the process, which is the default signal sent by `kill`. The process will be terminated if it doesn't exit on its own within a short period of time.

Example 2: Killing Multiple Processes

We can also kill multiple processes at once by separating their IDs with spaces:

```
$ kill 1234 5678 9012
```

This will send the same signal to all three processes.

Options:

The `kill` command has several options that allow us to specify the type of signal to be sent. Here are a few examples:

- `-9` or `SIGKILL`: This is a stronger signal than SIGTERM and cannot be caught by the process. It will terminate the process immediately, without giving it a chance to exit cleanly.
- `-15` or `SIGTERM`: This is the default signal sent by `kill`. It tells the process that it should exit, but gives it a chance to clean up before doing so.

Example 3: Killing with a Specific Signal

Let's say we want to kill a process with ID 1234 using the SIGKILL signal:

```
$ kill -9 1234
```

This will send a strong signal to the process, which cannot be caught or ignored. The process will be terminated immediately.

In summary, the `kill` command is used to terminate processes by sending signals to them. We can specify the type of signal to be sent using options like `-9` for SIGKILL or `-15` for SIGTERM.

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