



# Understanding systemd

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# What is systemd?

- Replaces init
  - Literally!

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# ls -al /sbin/init
lrwxrwxrwx. 1 root root 22 Jan 27 13:43 /sbin/init -> ../lib/systemd/systemd
[root@rhel7 ~]#
```

- First process to start and last to stop
- Parent process of all other processes
- Manages services *and* other resources

# What was init again?

- init – System V UNIX origins in 1970s
- Process for starting system:
  - BIOS/UEFI → Bootloader → Kernel → init
- init is the parent of all processes
- Creates processes from scripts stored in `/etc/inittab`
- “Modern” init scripts are stored in `/etc/init.d` and called from `/etc/rc*`



# Why replace System V init?

- init scripts!
  - Old, poorly maintained
  - Lack of standardization
  - Difficult / impossible to analyze (by humans and/or computers)
- Single threaded
- Unable to represent complex relationships



# /etc/init.d/httpd

(taken from RHEL 6.5, comments removed)

```
. /etc/rc.d/init.d/functions
if [ -f /etc/sysconfig/httpd ]; then
    . /etc/sysconfig/httpd
fi
HTTPD_LANG=${HTTPD_LANG-"C"}
INITLOG_ARGS=""
apachectl=/usr/sbin/apachectl
httpd=${HTTPD-/usr/sbin/httpd}
prog=httpd
pidfile=${PIDFILE-/var/run/httpd/httpd.pid}
lockfile=${LOCKFILE-/var/lock/subsys/httpd}
RETVAL=0
STOP_TIMEOUT=${STOP_TIMEOUT-10}
start() {
    echo -n "Starting $prog: "
    LANG=$HTTPD_LANG daemon --pidfile=${pidfile} $httpd $OPTIONS
    RETVAL=$?
    echo
    [ $RETVAL = 0 ] && touch ${lockfile}
    return $RETVAL
}
stop() {
    echo -n "Stopping $prog: "
    killproc -p ${pidfile} -d ${STOP_TIMEOUT} $httpd
    RETVAL=$?
    echo
    [ $RETVAL = 0 ] && rm -f ${lockfile} ${pidfile}
}
}
```

# /etc/init.d/httpd

(continued)

```
reload() {
    echo -n $"Reloading $prog: "
    if ! LANG=$HTTPD_LANG $httpd $OPTIONS -t >&/dev/null; then
        RETVAL=6
        echo $"not reloading due to configuration syntax error"
        failure $"not reloading $httpd due to configuration syntax error"
    else
        LSB=1 killproc -p ${pidfile} $httpd -HUP
        RETVAL=$?
        if [ $RETVAL -eq 7 ]; then
            failure $"httpd shutdown"
        fi
    fi
    echo
}
```

```
case "$1" in
    start)
        start
        ;;
    stop)
        stop
        ;;
    status)
        status -p ${pidfile} $httpd
        RETVAL=$?
        ;;
    *)
```

# /etc/init.d/httpd

(still continued...)

```
restart)
    stop
    start
    ;;
condrestart|try-restart)
    if status -p ${pidfile} $httpd >&/dev/null; then
        stop
        start
    fi
    ;;
force-reload|reload)
    reload
    ;;
graceful|help|configtest|fullstatus)
    $apachectl $@
    RETVAL=$?
    ;;
*)
    echo $"Usage: $prog {start|stop|restart|condrestart|try-restart|force-reload|reload|status|fullstatus|graceful|help|
configtest}"
    RETVAL=2
esac
exit $RETVAL
```

# systemd: httpd.service

## [Unit]

Description=The Apache HTTP Server

After=remote-fs.target nss-lookup.target

## [Service]

Type=notify

EnvironmentFile=/etc/sysconfig/httpd

ExecStart=/usr/sbin/httpd \$OPTIONS -DFOREGROUND

ExecReload=/usr/sbin/httpd \$OPTIONS -k graceful

ExecStop=/usr/sbin/httpd \$OPTIONS -k graceful-stop

KillSignal=SIGCONT

PrivateTmp=true

## [Install]

WantedBy=multi-user.target



So long, and thanks for all the fish





# systemd - System & Service Manager

# systemd Overview

- Controls More than Services
- Dependency Control
- Tracks and Restarts Services
- Service Activation
- Faster Start Up and Shutdown
- Improved Resource Management
- Better Logging, Debugging and Profiling
- Backwards compatible
- Easier to learn

# systemd Units

Controls more than services, it controls all resources on the system - referred to as units.

Examples of Units:

Services	Sockets	Mounts
Targets	Swap	and more...

Units are defined using Unit Files

- Naming convention is name.unit\_type

# systemd Unit Files

- Maintainer files: `/usr/lib/systemd/system`
- Administrator files: `/etc/systemd/system`
- Non-persistent, runtime data: `/run/systemd`
- Drop-ins: `/etc/systemd/system/[name.type].d/*.conf`

**Note:** unit files under `/etc` will take precedence over `/usr`

Don't forget `systemctl daemon-reload` when modifying units.

# Common Unit File Options

Description=Unit description

Documentation=Documentation links

Requires=Additional units required

Before/After=Unit must start Before/After

Wants=Weaker Requires

Conflicts=Units cannot co-exist

WantedBy/RequiredBy=Set other units requirement

- Lots of great detail in the [RHEL 7 System Administrator's Guide](#)

# Service Activation

- Start up services when needed
  - Save resources
  - Increased reliability
  - Transparent to client
- Activation by Socket, Device, Path, Bus, and Timer
- Recommended to convert xinetd services to units

# Improved Resource Management

- Services labeled and isolated with Cgroups
- More control than nice alone
- Can properly kill/restart entire service chain
- Can configure multiple instances for a single service
- Can balance by shares or by hard limits



# Kill/Restart Cleanly

- Tracked in the kernel
- Knows all children
- Don't need to rely on a potentially misbehaving process to hopefully kill its children

# Auto-Restarting

- It's paying attention!
- Reality: software does crash occasionally
- Reduces need for manual intervention
- Socket stays open, only lose that single transaction

# systemd: Managing Services

With init:

```
$ service unit {start,stop,restart,reload}
```

With systemd:

```
$ systemctl {start,stop,restart,reload} unit1 [unit2 ...]
```

- Allows multiple services to be acted on simultaneously
- Assumes `.service` as unit type
- Tab completion works great with `systemctl`
  - Install bash-completion

# systemctl vs service

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# service hellod start
Starting Hello Server: [ OK ]
[root@rhel6 ~]# service hellod status
hellod (pid 2889) is running...
[root@rhel6 ~]# service hellod stop
Stopping Hello Server: [ OK ]
[root@rhel6 ~]# █
```

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl start hellod.service
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl status hellod.service
hellod.service - Hello Service
   Loaded: loaded (/etc/systemd/system/hellod.service; enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Tue 2015-02-17 18:29:25 EST; 5s ago
   Process: 3941 ExecStart=/usr/local/sbin/hellod (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
  Main PID: 3943 (hellod)
   CGroup: /system.slice/hellod.service
           └─3943 /usr/local/sbin/hellod

Feb 17 18:29:25 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[1]: Starting Hello Service...
Feb 17 18:29:25 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[1]: Started Hello Service.
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl stop hellod.service
[root@rhel7 ~]# █
```

# systemctl vs service

- List services:

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# service --status-all
abrt-ccpp hook is installed
abrt-d (pid 1652) is running...
abrt-dump-oops is stopped
acpid (pid 1440) is running...
atd (pid 1675) is running...
auditd (pid 1106) is running...
automount (pid 1518) is running...
certmonger (pid 1704) is running...
Stopped
cgred is stopped
```

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl --type service --state active
```

UNIT	LOAD	ACTIVE	SUB	DESCRIPTION
abrt-ccpp.service	loaded	active	exited	Install ABRT coredump hook
abrt-oops.service	loaded	active	running	ABRT kernel log watcher
abrt-xorg.service	loaded	active	running	ABRT Xorg log watcher
abrt-d.service	loaded	active	running	ABRT Automated Bug Reporting
accounts-daemon.service	loaded	active	running	Accounts Service
alsa-state.service	loaded	active	running	Manage Sound Card State (res

# Managing Services: Enable / Disable

With init:

```
$ chkconfig unit {on,off}
```

With systemctl:

```
$ systemctl {enable, disable, mask, unmask} unit [unit...]
```

**mask** – “This will link these units to `/dev/null`, making it impossible to start them. This is a stronger version of `disable`, since it prohibits all kinds of activation of the unit, including manual activation. Use this option with care.”

# Systemctl vs chkconfig

List all services:

```
[root@rhel6 ~]# chkconfig --list
abrt-ccpp      0:off  1:off  2:off  3:on   4:off  5:on   6:off
abrt-d        0:off  1:off  2:off  3:on   4:off  5:on   6:off
acpid         0:off  1:off  2:on   3:on   4:on   5:on   6:off
atd           0:off  1:off  2:off  3:on   4:on   5:on   6:off
auditd       0:off  1:off  2:on   3:on   4:on   5:on   6:off
autofs       0:off  1:off  2:off  3:on   4:on   5:on   6:off
blk-availability 0:off  1:on   2:on   3:on   4:on   5:on   6:off
certmonger   0:off  1:off  2:off  3:on   4:on   5:on   6:off
```

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl list-unit-files --type=service
UNIT FILE                                     STATE
abrt-ccpp.service                           enabled
abrt-oops.service                           enabled
abrt-pstoreoops.service                     disabled
abrt-vmcore.service                         enabled
abrt-xorg.service                           enabled
abrt-d.service                              enabled
accounts-daemon.service                     enabled
alsa-restore.service                        static
alsa-state.service                          static
```

# systemctl

Lots of options...

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl
cancel                is-active            reload-or-restart
condreload            is-enabled           reload-or-try-restart
condrestart           is-failed            rescue
condstop              isolate              reset-failed
daemon-reexec         kexec                restart
daemon-reload         kill                  set-default
default               link                  set-environment
delete                list-dependencies   set-property
disable               list-jobs             show
emergency             list-sockets         show-environment
enable                list-unit-files     snapshot
exit                  list-units           start
force-reload          mask                  status
get-default           poweroff              stop
halt                  preset                suspend
help                  reboot                try-restart
hibernate              reenable              unmask
hybrid-sleep          reload                unset-environment
```



# systemd-\*

Lots of new commands...

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemd-
systemd-analyze                systemd-logindctl
systemd-ask-password           systemd-machine-id-setup
systemd-cat                     systemd-notify
systemd-cgls                    systemd-nspawn
systemd-cgtop                   systemd-run
systemd-coredumpctl            systemd-stdio-bridge
systemd-delta                   systemd-sysv-convert
systemd-detect-virt            systemd-tmpfiles
systemd-inhibit                 systemd-tty-ask-password-agent
```

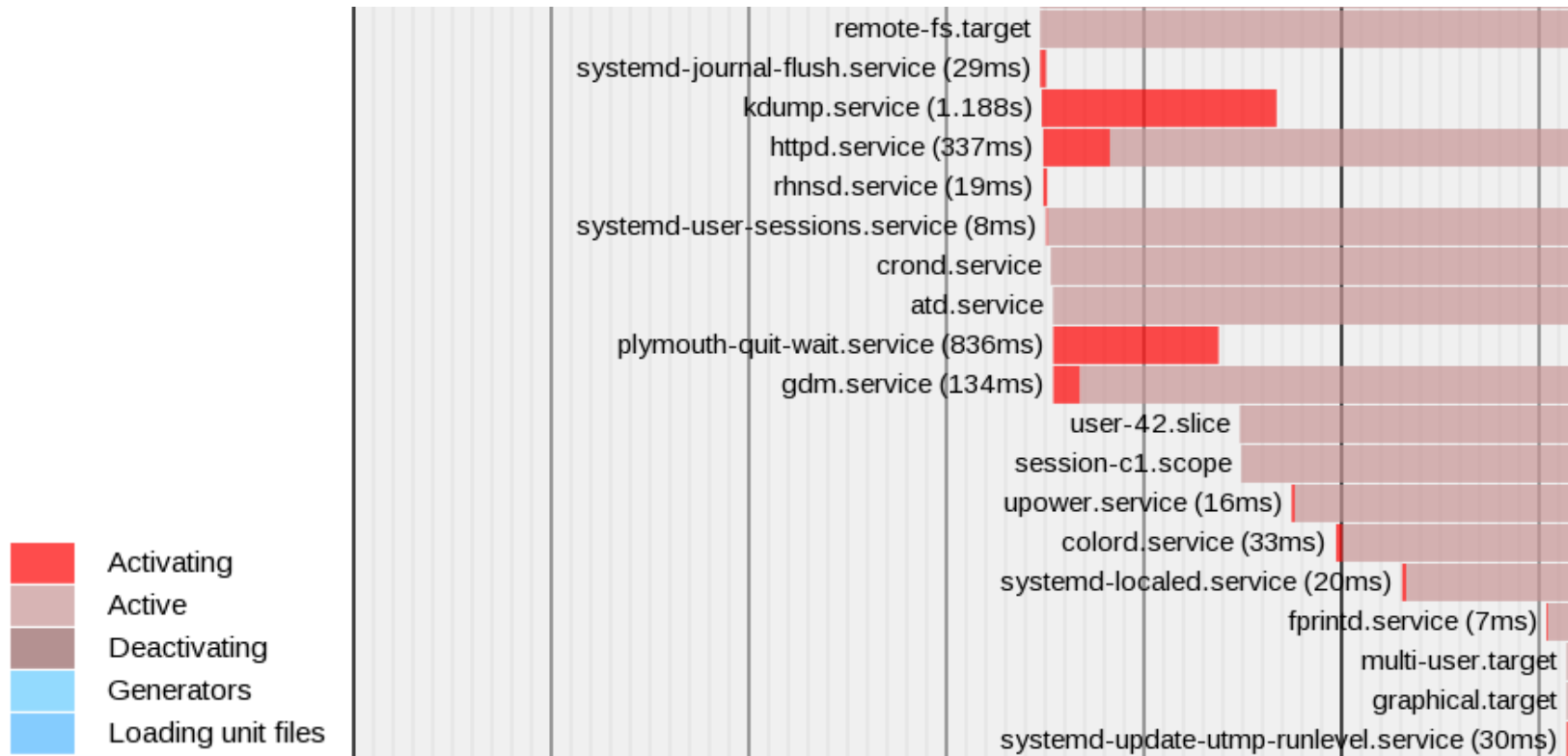
# systemd Dependencies

- Define order and requirements for each unit
- Example: `nfs-lock.service`
  - `Requires=rpcbind.service network.target`
  - `After=network.target named.service rpcbind.service`
  - `Before=remote-fs-pre.target`
- No more semi-arbitrary 00-99 ASCII order loading

# Parallel, Not Serial

- Allows for Faster Start Up and Shutdown
- Efficiently Use System Resources

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemd-analyze plot > /tmp/boot_plot.svg
```



# Boot Process

- Boot path determined by default.target

Let's track it backwards!

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl get-default  
graphical.target
```

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# grep -v '^#' /usr/lib/systemd/system/graphical.target  
  
[Unit]  
Description=Graphical Interface  
Documentation=man:systemd.special(7)  
Requires=multi-user.target  
After=multi-user.target  
Conflicts=rescue.target  
Wants=display-manager.service  
AllowIsolate=yes
```

# Boot Process

- graphical.target requires multi-user.target...

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# grep -v '^#' /usr/lib/systemd/system/multi-user.target

[Unit]
Description=Multi-User System
Documentation=man:systemd.special(7)
Requires=basic.target
Conflicts=rescue.service rescue.target
After=basic.target rescue.service rescue.target
AllowIsolate=yes
```

# Boot Process

- Which requires basic.target...

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# grep -v '^#' /usr/lib/systemd/system/basic.target

[Unit]
Description=Basic System
Documentation=man:systemd.special(7)
Requires=sysinit.target
Wants=sockets.target timers.target paths.target slices.target
After=sysinit.target sockets.target timers.target paths.target slices.target
```

- Which requires sysinit.target...

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# grep -v '^#' /usr/lib/systemd/system/sysinit.target

[Unit]
Description=System Initialization
Documentation=man:systemd.special(7)
Conflicts=emergency.service emergency.target
Wants=local-fs.target swap.target
After=local-fs.target swap.target emergency.service emergency.target
```

# Boot Process

Which wants local-fs-pre.target and swap.target...

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# grep -v '^#' /usr/lib/systemd/system/local-fs-pre.target

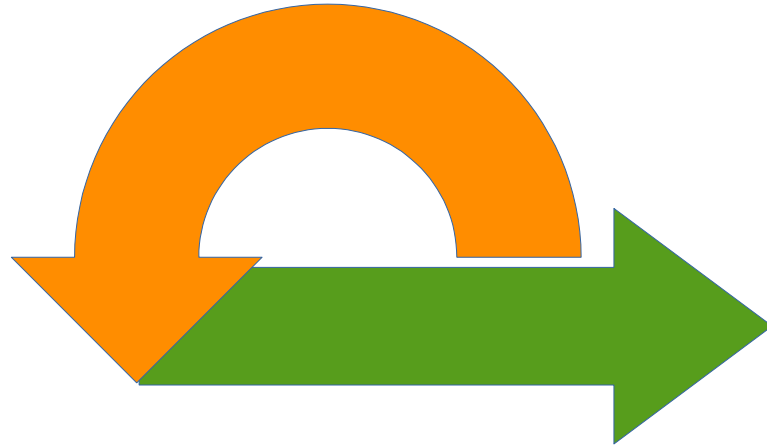
[Unit]
Description=Local File Systems (Pre)
Documentation=man:systemd.special(7)
RefuseManualStart=yes
[root@rhel7 ~]# grep -v '^#' /usr/lib/systemd/system/swap.target

[Unit]
Description=Swap
Documentation=man:systemd.special(7)
[root@rhel7 ~]#
```

- End of the line!

# Boot Process

Targets then loaded from the beginning..



But, how does this work for starting individual services?



# Boot Process – Services/Units

- Target “Wants” Directories:

`/usr/lib/systemd/system/<name>.target.wants/`

`/etc/systemd/system/<name>.target.wants/`

- Files are symlinks to actual unit files
- Empty target wants directories are placeholders

# Boot Process - Services/Units

Example for multi-user.target.wants:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# ls /usr/lib/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants
brandbot.path    plymouth-quit.service          systemd-logind.service
dbus.service    plymouth-quit-wait.service     systemd-user-sessions.service
getty.target    systemd-ask-password-wall.path
[root@rhel7 ~]# ls /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants
abrt-ccpp.service    hypervkvpd.service            postfix.service
abrt-d.service       hypervvssd.service           remote-fs.target
abrt-oops.service   irqbalance.service          rhsmcertd.service
abrt-vmcore.service kdump.service                rngd.service
abrt-xorg.service   ksm.service                  rsyslog.service
atd.service         ksmtuned.service             smardd.service
auditd.service      libstoragemgmt.service       sshd.service
avahi-daemon.service libvirtd.service             sysstat.service
chronyd.service     mariadb.service              tuned.service
crond.service       mdmonitor.service            vmtoolsd.service
cups.path           ModemManager.service
httpd.service       NetworkManager.service
```

# Exploring dependencies

List all services by target:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl list-dependencies multi-user.target --no-pager
multi-user.target
├─abrt-ccpp.service
├─abrt-oops.service
├─abrt-vmcore.service
├─basic.target
│   ├─alsa-restore.service
│   ├─alsa-state.service
│   ├─paths.target
│   ├─slices.target
│   │   └─.slice
│   │       └─system.slice
│   └─sockets.target
│       ├─avahi-daemon.socket
│       └─cups.socket
├─timers.target
│   └─systemd-tmpfiles-clean.timer
├─getty.target
│   └─getty@tty1.service
└─remote-fs.target
```

# Analyzing Boot

- Each unit is tracked during start up

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemd-analyze blame --no-pager
2.598s mariadb.service
1.459s kdump.service
868ms plymouth-quit-wait.service
867ms postfix.service
510ms firewalld.service
397ms network.service
380ms httpd.service
347ms boot.mount
311ms tuned.service
245ms lvm2-monitor.service
237ms libvirtd.service
232ms accounts-daemon.service
203ms systemd-vconsole-setup.service
203ms ModemManager.service
168ms avahi-daemon.service
167ms systemd-logind.service
156ms rtkit-daemon.service
127ms chronyd.service
```

# Targets are the new Runlevels

Targets != Runlevels – some equivalency

Traditional Runlevel	Equivalent Target	Symlink Target
Runlevel 0	poweroff.target	runlevel0.target
Runlevel 1	rescue.target	runlevel1.target
Runlevel 2	multi-user.target	runlevel2.target
Runlevel 3	multi-user.target	runlevel3.target
Runlevel 4	multi-user.target	runlevel4.target
Runlevel 5	graphical.target	runlevel5.target
Runlevel 6	reboot.target	runlevel6.target

- Targets can and will contain other targets

# Common Targets

Target	Purpose
graphical.target	Supports multiple users, graphical and text-based logins
multi-user.target	Supports multiple users, text-based logins only
rescue.target	Single user, local file systems mounted and basic system initialization completed, networking is not activated
emergency.target	Single user, root file system is mounted read-only, only a few essential services are started, networking is not activated

- Rescue and Emergency require root password!

# Working with Targets

Viewing the default target:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl get-default
multi-user.target
[root@rhel7 ~]# █
```

Setting default target:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl set-default graphical.target
rm '/etc/systemd/system/default.target'
ln -s '/usr/lib/systemd/system/graphical.target' '/etc/systemd/system/default.target'
[root@rhel7 ~]# █
```

Default target is just a symlink:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# ls -al /etc/systemd/system/default.target
lrwxrwxrwx. 1 root root 40 Feb 22 21:17 /etc/systemd/system/default.target -> /usr/lib/systemd/system/graphical.target
[root@rhel7 ~]# █
```

# Working with Targets

Changing currently loaded target:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl isolate graphical.target  
[root@rhel7 ~]#
```

Changing to rescue mode:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl rescue  
  
Broadcast message from mruzicka@rhel7.mruzicka on pts/0 (Sat 2015-02-14 19:48:43  
EST):  
  
The system is going down to rescue mode NOW!
```

Changing to emergency mode without sending message:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl --no-wall emergency  
█
```



# Working with Targets

View list of currently loaded targets:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemctl list-units --type target
```

Results pipe to less by default: (can use --no-pager)

```
UNIT                                LOAD    ACTIVE SUB    DESCRIPTION
basic.target                        loaded active active Basic System
cryptsetup.target                  loaded active active Encrypted Volumes
getty.target                        loaded active active Login Prompts
local-fs-pre.target                loaded active active Local File Systems (Pre)
local-fs.target                    loaded active active Local File Systems
multi-user.target                  loaded active active Multi-User System
network.target                     loaded active active Network
paths.target                        loaded active active Paths
remote-fs.target                   loaded active active Remote File Systems
slices.target                       loaded active active Slices
sockets.target                     loaded active active Sockets
sound.target                       loaded active active Sound Card
swap.target                         loaded active active Swap
lines 1-14/23 61%
```

# Shutting Down, Suspending, Etc.

Old Command	New Command	Description
halt	systemctl halt	Halts the system
poweroff	systemctl poweroff	Powers off the system
reboot	systemctl reboot	Restarts the system
pm-suspend	systemctl suspend	Suspends the system
pm-hibernate	systemctl hibernate	Hibernates the system
pm-suspend-hybrid	systemctl hybrid-sleep	Hibernates and suspends the system

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# ls -al /usr/sbin/shutdown
lrwxrwxrwx. 1 root root 16 Feb 13 17:00 /usr/sbin/shutdown -> ../bin/systemctl
[root@rhel7 ~]#
```

# Resetting Root Password

Step 1: Reboot your system

Step 2: When the GRUB2 boot loader menu appears, press any key to interrupt, and press 'e' to edit selection

```
Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.1 (Maipo), with Linux 3.10.0-229.el7.x→  
Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.1 (Maipo), with Linux 0-rescue-801addf→
```

```
Use the ↑ and ↓ keys to change the selection.  
Press 'e' to edit the selected item, or 'c' for a command prompt.
```

# Resetting Root Password

Step 3: Using the cursor keys, navigate to the end of the line that starts with linux16

Step 4: Append 'rd.break' to the end of the line and press Ctrl-X to boot modified config

```
insmod part_msdos
insmod xfs
set root='hd0,msdos1'
if [ x${feature_platform_search_hint} = xy ]; then
    search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root --hint='hd0,msdos1' dfa2f4c\
e-ab99-4e78-bc96-ebb73fa2922c
else
    search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root dfa2f4ce-ab99-4e78-bc96-ebb7\
3fa2922c
fi
linux16 /vmlinuz-3.10.0-229.el7.x86_64 root=/dev/mapper/rhel_rhel7-roo\
t ro crashkernel=auto rd.lvm.lv=rhel_rhel7/root rd.lvm.lv=rhel_rhel7/swap rhgb\
quiet LANG=en_US.UTF-8 rd.break
initrd16 /initramfs-3.10.0-229.el7.x86_64.img
```

Press Ctrl-x to start, Ctrl-c for a command prompt or Escape to discard edits and return to the menu. Pressing Tab lists possible completions.

# Resetting Root Password

Step 6: At the `switch_root` prompt, remount the `/sysroot` file system read-write, then use `chroot` to enter the jail

Step 7: Reset the root password with `passwd`

```
Generating "/run/initramfs/rdsosreport.txt"

Entering emergency mode. Exit the shell to continue.
Type "journalctl" to view system logs.
You might want to save "/run/initramfs/rdsosreport.txt" to a USB stick or /boot
after mounting them and attach it to a bug report.

switch_root:/# mount -oremount,rw /sysroot
switch_root:/# chroot /sysroot
sh-4.2# passwd root
Changing password for user root.
New password:
```

# Resetting Root Password


**IMPORTANT!** (Because you're using SELinux, right?)

Step 8: Instruct SELinux to relabel all files upon reboot.

- *System may not boot properly if skipped!*

Step 9: Exit twice to initiate relabel and reboot

```
sh-4.2# touch /.autorelabel  
sh-4.2# exit  
exit  
switch_root:/# exit  
logout
```



**NOTE:** The relabel may take quite a while to run before the system becomes available.

# systemd-cgtop

Show top control groups by their resource usage:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemd-cgtop
```

Path	Tasks	%CPU	Memory	Input/s	Output/s
/	453	20.9	19.3G	0B	11.8K
/machine.slice	-	2.7	132.1M	-	-
/machine.sli...tance\x2d00000017.scope	2	2.7	132.1M	-	-
/machine.sli...00000017.scope/emulator	2	2.7	-	-	-
/machine.sli...x2d00000017.scope/vcpu0	1	0.0	-	-	-
/system.slice/auditd.service	1	-	-	-	-
/system.slice/avahi-daemon.service	2	-	-	-	-

- May need to enable accounting – perfect drop-

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# vi /etc/systemd/system/mariadb.service.d/accounting.conf
```

```
[Service]
CPUAccounting=1
MemoryAccounting=1
BlockAccounting=1
```

# systemd-cgls

Recursively show control group contents:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemd-cgls █
```

```
├─1 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd --switched-root --system --deserialize 23
├─user.slice
│   └─user-1000.slice
│       └─session-2.scope
│           ├── 311 -bash
│           ├── 2830 sshd: mruzicka [priv
│           ├── 2866 sshd: mruzicka@pts/1
│           └─2867 -bash
```

```
└─system.slice
    ├── systemd-locale.service
    │   └─1810 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-locale
    ├── colord.service
    │   └─1644 /usr/libexec/colord
    ├── upower.service
    │   └─1145 /usr/libexec/upowerd
    └─polkit.service
        └─680 /usr/lib/polkit-1/polkitd --no-debug
```





# systemd Logging: journalctl

# Improved Logging

- Don't need to wait for syslog to start
- No More Losing STDERR and STDOUT
- More detail than classic syslog alone
- Logging with metadata
- Improved debugging and profiling

# journalctl

- Does not replace rsyslog in RHEL 7
  - rsyslog is enabled by default
- The journal is not persistent by default.
  - Enable persistence: ``mkdir /var/log/journal``
- Stored in key-value pairs
  - `journalctl [tab] [tab]`
  - Man 7 `systemd.journal-fields`
- Collects event metadata along with the message
- Simple to filter
  - Interleave units, binaries, etc.

# Using the Journal

- Tail the journal: ``journalctl -f``
- Show X number of lines: ``journalctl -n 50``
- View from boot: ``journalctl -b``
- Filter by priority: ``journalctl -p [level]``

0	emerg
1	alert
2	crit
3	err
4	warning
5	notice
6	debug

# journalctl

## View basic logs:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# journalctl
-- Logs begin at Tue 2015-02-17 17:56:24 EST, end at Tue 2015-02-17 22:01:01 EST
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka systemd-journal[90]: Runtime journal is using 6.2
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka systemd-journal[90]: Runtime journal is using 6.2
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka kernel: Initializing cgroup subsys cpuset
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka kernel: Initializing cgroup subsys cpu
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka kernel: Initializing cgroup subsys cpuacct
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka kernel: Linux version 3.10.0-229.el7.x86_64 (mock
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka kernel: Command line: BOOT_IMAGE=/vmlinuz-3.10.0-
```

- Time stamps converted to system local time zone
- All logged data is shown, including rotated logs
- Non-persistent by default, can be preserved

# journalctl

View most recent logs: (-f to follow)

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# journalctl -n 10
-- Logs begin at Tue 2015-02-17 17:56:24 EST, end at Tue 2015-02-17 22:05:37 EST
Feb 17 22:00:21 rhel7.mruzicka dbus[623]: [system] Successfully activated service 'org.freedesktop.DBus'
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[1]: Created slice user-0.slice.
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[1]: Starting Session 37 of user root.
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[1]: Started Session 37 of user root.
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka CROND[24501]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.hourly)
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka run-parts(/etc/cron.hourly)[24507]: starting 0ana
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka run-parts(/etc/cron.hourly)[24513]: finished 0ana
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka run-parts(/etc/cron.hourly)[24515]: starting 0yum
Feb 17 22:01:01 rhel7.mruzicka run-parts(/etc/cron.hourly)[24519]: finished 0yum
Feb 17 22:05:37 rhel7.mruzicka [24590]: blah blah blah
```

- Can force stdout/stderr to write to journal with `systemd-cat` if wanted

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# systemd-cat echo 'blah blah blah'
```

# journalctl

## Filter by priority:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# journalctl -p err
-- Logs begin at Tue 2015-02-17 17:56:24 EST, end at Tue 2015-02-17 22:10:01 EST
Feb 17 17:56:24 rhel7.mruzicka kernel: Failed to access perfctr msr (MSR c1 is 0
Feb 17 17:56:25 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[1]: /usr/lib/systemd/system-generators/an
```

## Filter by time and priority:

```
[root@rhel7 ~]# journalctl -p err --since "2015-2-17 18:00:00" --until "2015-2-17 18:10:00"
-- Logs begin at Tue 2015-02-17 17:56:24 EST, end at Tue 2015-02-17 22:10:01 EST
Feb 17 18:00:57 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[3163]: Failed at step EXEC spawning /usr/
Feb 17 18:00:57 rhel7.mruzicka systemd[1]: Failed to start Hello Service.
```

- Advanced filtering by field, UID, unit, etc..

# Using journalctl

- Other useful filters:
  - -r reverse order
  - -u [unit]
  - binary e.g. /usr/sbin/dnsmasq [additional binaries]
  - --since=yesterday or YYYY-MM-DD (HH:MM:SS)
  - --until=YYYY-MM-DD
- View entire journal
  - journalctl -o verbose (useful for grep)



# Systemd Journal

## How to enable persistent logging for the systemd journal

- <https://access.redhat.com/solutions/696893>

## System Administrator's Guide

- [https://access.redhat.com/documentation/en-US/Red\\_Hat\\_Enterprise\\_Linux/7/html/System\\_Administrators\\_Guide/s1-Using\\_the\\_Journal.html](https://access.redhat.com/documentation/en-US/Red_Hat_Enterprise_Linux/7/html/System_Administrators_Guide/s1-Using_the_Journal.html)

## Lennart Poettering - The systemd Journal

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4CACB7paLc>



# systemd - Review

# Review: systemd

- Replaces init and does much more
- It is here and it's powerful
- New boot and root password reset process
- New commands and functionality
- Plenty of great information and resources available

# Start using the new commands

Bash Completion is your friend!

- # yum install bash-completion



## **systemd Cheat Sheet for Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7**

- <https://access.redhat.com/articles/systemd-cheat-sheet>

## **Common Administrative Commands in RHEL 5, 6, & 7**

- <https://access.redhat.com/articles/1189123>

# Compatibility

- Systemd maintains 99% backwards compatibility with LSB compatible initscripts and the exceptions are well documented.
- While we do encourage everyone to convert legacy scripts to service unit files, it's not a requirement.
- Incompatibilities are listed here:  
<http://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/Incompatibilities/>
- Converting SysV Init Scripts:  
<http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/systemd-for-admins-3.html>

# Learn More

Lots of great info at <https://access.redhat.com> and <http://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/>

## **Overview of systemd for RHEL 7**

- <https://access.redhat.com/articles/754933>

## **Red Hat Summit 2013 - Getting Ready for systemd**

- <https://access.redhat.com/videos/403833>

## **RHEL 7 - systemd Service & Resource Management**

- <https://access.redhat.com/videos/898503>

## **Rethinking PID 1 by Lennart Poettering**

- <http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/systemd.html>

# More Resources

- RHEL 7 documentation:  
[https://access.redhat.com/site/documentation/Red\\_Hat\\_Enterprise\\_Linux/](https://access.redhat.com/site/documentation/Red_Hat_Enterprise_Linux/)
- Systemd project page:  
<http://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/>
- Lennart Poettering's systemd blog entries: (read them all)  
<http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/systemd-for-admins-1.html>
- Red Hat System Administration II & III (RH134/RH254)  
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- Systemd FAQ
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