

Service & Process Management

First lets understand what a service is

Services are background processes that run independently of user interaction, providing specific functionality or performing system tasks. They are managed by the init system, typically `systemd`, and can be started, stopped, and managed using commands like `systemctl`.

Services are defined in `.service` files, which contain details like the service's name, description, and the command to run. These files are typically located in `/etc/systemd/system` or `/lib/systemd/system`.

- To start a service

```
sudo systemctl start tor.service
```

- To check the status of the service

```
sudo systemctl status tor.service
```

- To restart the service

```
sudo systemctl restart tor.service
```

- To stop the service.

```
sudo systemctl stop tor.service
```

In addition to starting and stopping services on demand, you can also configure services to start automatically when the system boots up. This is known as enabling a service.

To enable a service:

```
sudo systemctl enable tor.service
```

To disable a service:

```
sudo systemctl disable tor.service
```

Process Management

Processes are instances of running programs that execute in memory. Each process has its own memory space, and they can communicate with each other using inter-process communication (IPC) mechanisms. Basically, Processes can be classified into two types:

- **Foreground processes:** These processes run in the foreground and interact with the user directly. Examples include command-line tools like `ls` and `grep`.
- **Background processes:** These processes run in the background and do not interact with the user directly. Examples include system services like `sshd` and `httpd`.
- To view the process, we can use the `ps` command.

```
ps
```

But this does not give enough information as we have not used any flags. Now if we use the `-aux` flag.

```
ps aux
```

It now displays a detailed list of all processes, including the process ID (PID), CPU usage, and memory usage.

- We can also use HTOP for this which is much more graphical.

Killing the process:

So, if we want to kill a process like we do in Windows using Task Manager. We can also do it in Linux with the `kill` command. For that, we only need a PID or Process name.

- To terminate the process with the specified PID.

```
kill PID
```

- We can also force the process to terminate immediately, without allowing it to clean up.

```
kill -9 PID
```

- If we want to kill all the processes with a certain name we can kill them using `killall` command.

```
killall <process_name>
```

Backgrounding a process

We can use the Ampersand (&) symbol to make a process run in background.

```
sleep 100&
```

Now the sleep command will run in background for 100 seconds as we have added ampersand behind it and by that time, we can use our terminal like before.

- To check for all the background jobs, we can use the jobs command.

```
jobs
```

- If we want to send a background job to foreground, we can use its Job ID to do so.

```
fg <job ID>
```

- Same can be happen in reverse if we want a foreground job to go in background again.

```
bg <job_ID>
```
