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Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'resizecons.8' command

\$ man resizecons.8

RESIZECONS(8)

System Manager's Manual

RESIZECONS(8)

NAME

resizecons - change kernel idea of the console size

SYNOPSIS

resizecons COLSxROWS

resizecons -lines ROWS

DESCRIPTION

The resizecons command tries to change the videomode of the console.

There are several aspects to this: (a) the kernel must know about it,

- (b) the hardware must know about it, (c) user programs must know about
- it, (d) the console font may have to be adapted.
- (a) The kernel is told about the change using the ioctl VT_RESIZE.

This causes the kernel to reallocate console screen memory for all vir? tual consoles, and might fail if there is not enough memory. (In that case, try to disallocate some virtual consoles first.) If this ioctl succeeds, but a later step fails (e.g., because you do not have root

permissions), you may be left with a very messy screen.

The most difficult part of this is (b), since it requires detailed

knowledge of the video card hardware, and the setting of numerous reg?

isters. Only changing the number of rows is slightly easier, and re?

sizecons will try to do that itself, when given the -lines option.

(Probably, root permission will be required.) The command resizecons

COLSxROWS will execute restoretextmode -r COLSxROWS (and hence requires

that you have svgalib installed). Here COLSxROWS is a file that was created earlier by restoretextmode -w COLSxROWS. Again, either root permissions are required, or restoretextmode has to be suid root.

In order to deal with (c), resizecons does a `stty rows ROWS cols COLS' for each active console (in the range tty0..tty15), and sends a SIG?

WINCH signal to selection if it finds the file /tmp/selection.pid.

Finally, (d) is dealt with by executing a setfont command. Most likely, the wrong font is loaded, and you may want to do another setfont your? self afterwards.

BUGS

resizecons does not work on all hardware. This command used to be called resize, but was renamed to avoid conflict with another command with the same name.

SEE ALSO

setfont(8), stty(1), selection(1), restoretextmode(8), disalloc(8)

kbd 17 Jan 1995 RESIZECONS(8)