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# Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'setsid.2' command

# \$ man setsid.2

SETSID(2)

Linux Programmer's Manual

SETSID(2)

NAME

setsid - creates a session and sets the process group ID

### **SYNOPSIS**

#include <sys/types.h>

#include <unistd.h>

pid\_t setsid(void);

### **DESCRIPTION**

setsid() creates a new session if the calling process is not a process group leader. The calling process is the leader of the new session (i.e., its session ID is made the same as its process ID). The calling process also becomes the process group leader of a new process group in the session (i.e., its process group ID is made the same as its process ID).

The calling process will be the only process in the new process group and in the new session.

Initially, the new session has no controlling terminal. For details of how a session acquires a controlling terminal, see credentials(7).

# **RETURN VALUE**

On success, the (new) session ID of the calling process is returned.

On error, (pid\_t) -1 is returned, and errno is set to indicate the er?

ror.

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EPERM The process group ID of any process equals the PID of the call? ing process. Thus, in particular, setsid() fails if the calling process is already a process group leader.

#### CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, SVr4.

#### **NOTES**

A child created via fork(2) inherits its parent's session ID. The ses? sion ID is preserved across an execve(2).

A process group leader is a process whose process group ID equals its PID. Disallowing a process group leader from calling setsid() prevents the possibility that a process group leader places itself in a new ses? sion while other processes in the process group remain in the original session; such a scenario would break the strict two-level hierarchy of sessions and process groups. In order to be sure that setsid() will succeed, call fork(2) and have the parent \_exit(2), while the child (which by definition can't be a process group leader) calls setsid(). If a session has a controlling terminal, and the CLOCAL flag for that terminal is not set, and a terminal hangup occurs, then the session leader is sent a SIGHUP signal.

If a process that is a session leader terminates, then a SIGHUP signal is sent to each process in the foreground process group of the control? ling terminal.

# SEE ALSO

setsid(1), getsid(2), setpgid(2), setpgrp(2), tcgetsid(3), creden? tials(7), sched(7)

## **COLOPHON**

This page is part of release 5.10 of the Linux man-pages project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/.

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