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setcap − set file capabilities

SYNOPSIS

setcap [−q] [−n <rootid>] [−v] {*capabilities*|−|−*r*} *filename* [... *capabilitiesN fileN*]

DESCRIPTION

In the absence of the **−v** (verify) option **setcap** sets the capabilities of each specified *filename* to the *capabilities* specified. The optional **−n <rootid>** argument can be used to set the file capability for use only in a namespace with this rootid owner. The **−v** option is used to verify that the specified capabilities are currently associated with the file. If −v and −n are supplied, the **−n <rootid>** argument is also verified.

The *capabilities* are specified in the form described in *cap_from_text*(3).

The special capability string, **'−'**, can be used to indicate that capabilities are read from the standard input. In such cases, the capability set is terminated with a blank line.

The special capability string, **'−r'**, is used to remove a capability set from a file. Note, setting an empty capability set is **not the same** as removing it. An empty set can be used to guarantee a file is not executed with privilege inspite of the fact that the prevailing ambient+inheritable sets would otherwise bestow capabilities on executed binaries.

The **−q** flag is used to make the program less verbose in its output.

EXIT CODE

The **setcap** program will exit with a 0 exit code if successful. On failure, the exit code is 1.

REPORTING BUGS

Please report bugs via:

https://bugzilla.kernel.org/buglist.cgi?component=libcap&list_id=1047723&product=Tools&resolution=---

SEE ALSO

cap_from_text(3), **cap_set_file**(3), **getcap**(8)