

NAME

`switch_root` – switch to another filesystem as the root of the mount tree

SYNOPSIS

`switch_root [-hV]`

`switch_root newroot init [arg...]`

DESCRIPTION

`switch_root` moves already mounted `/proc`, `/dev`, `/sys` and `/run` to `newroot` and makes `newroot` the new root filesystem and starts `init` process.

WARNING: `switch_root` removes recursively all files and directories on the current root filesystem.

OPTIONS

`-h, --help`

Display help text and exit.

`-V, --version`

Display version information and exit.

RETURN VALUE

`switch_root` returns 0 on success and 1 on failure.

NOTES

`switch_root` will fail to function if **newroot** is not the root of a mount. If you want to switch root into a directory that does not meet this requirement then you can first use a bind-mounting trick to turn any directory into a mount point:

```
mount --bind $DIR $DIR
```

SEE ALSO

`chroot(2)`, `init(8)`, `mkinitrd(8)`, `mount(8)`

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AVAILABILITY

The `switch_root` command is part of the `util-linux` package and is available from <https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/>.