



Tech Info Library

A/UX: Change Process Priority with nice (1) and (2)

Article Created: 10 July 1990

Article Change History

08/31/92 - REVIEWED

- For technical accuracy.

TOPIC -----

Apple gives a high priority or time slice to the mac32 process. I'm developing a product that needs to throw up a dialog saying that it's going to process data and then take over as much of the CPU's time as possible.

Do you have any tools and/or facilities to give priorities to specific tasks? Ultimately, I would like to shut off tasks like network deamons, cron deamons, and so on.

DISCUSSION -----

A/UX supports both nice (1) and nice (2). These let you run or change the priority of a process.

nice (1), which is available from the command level, executes the specified command with a lower or higher CPU scheduling priority. Note that the nice built-in function in the C shell is different from /bin/nice, so be careful using nice. The superuser may run commands with priority higher than normal by using a negative increment. For example:

```
/bin/nice --15 wc /usr/dict/words
```

causes the program "wc" to be run with higher priority than a normal process. See nice (1) manual page for more details.

nice (2) is a system call to change the priority of a process. It adds the increment value (specified in the argument) to the value of the calling process. See nice (2) manual page for more details.

Copyright 1990 Apple Computer, Inc.

Keywords: <None>

=====

This information is from the Apple Technical Information Library.

19960215 11:05:19.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 5937