

NAME

apachectl - Apache HTTP Server Control Interface

SYNOPSIS

When acting in pass-through mode, **apachectl** can take all the arguments available for the httpd binary.

apachectl [*httpd-argument*]

When acting in SysV init mode, **apachectl** takes simple, one-word commands, defined below.

apachectl *command*

SUMMARY

apachectl is a front end to the Apache HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server. It is designed to help the administrator control the functioning of the Apache httpd daemon.

The **apachectl** script can operate in two modes. First, it can act as a simple front-end to the httpd command that simply sets any necessary environment variables and then invokes httpd, passing through any command line arguments. Second, **apachectl** can act as a SysV init script, taking simple one-word arguments like **start**, **restart**, and **stop**, and translating them into appropriate signals to httpd.

If your Apache installation uses non-standard paths, you will need to edit the **apachectl** script to set the appropriate paths to the httpd binary. You can also specify any necessary httpd command line arguments. See the comments in the script for details.

The **apachectl** script returns a 0 exit value on success, and >0 if an error occurs. For more details, view the comments in the script.

OPTIONS

Only the SysV init-style options are defined here. Other arguments are defined on the httpd manual page.

start

Start the Apache httpd daemon. Gives an error if it is already running. This is equivalent to **apachectl -k start**.

stop

Stops the Apache httpd daemon. This is equivalent to **apachectl -k stop**.

restart

Restarts the Apache httpd daemon. If the daemon is not running, it is started. This command automatically checks the configuration files as in **configtest** before initiating the restart to make sure the daemon doesn't die. This is equivalent to **apachectl -k restart**.

fullstatus

Displays a full status report from mod_status. For this to work, you need to have mod_status enabled on your server and a text-based browser such as **lynx** available on your system. The URL used to access the status report can be set by editing the **STATUSURL** variable in the script.

status

Displays a brief status report. Similar to the **fullstatus** option, except that the list of requests currently being served is omitted.

graceful

Gracefully restarts the Apache httpd daemon. If the daemon is not running, it is started. This differs from a normal restart in that currently open connections are not aborted. A side effect is that old log files will not be closed immediately. This means that if used in a log rotation script, a substantial delay may be necessary to ensure that the old log files are closed before processing them. This command automatically checks the configuration files as in **configtest** before initiating the restart to make sure Apache doesn't die. This is equivalent to **apachectl -k graceful**.

graceful-stop

Gracefully stops the Apache httpd daemon. This differs from a normal stop in that currently open connections are not aborted. A side effect is that old log files will not be closed immediately. This is equivalent to **apachectl -k graceful-stop**.

configtest

Run a configuration file syntax test. It parses the configuration files and either reports **Syntax Ok** or detailed information about the particular syntax error. This is equivalent to **apachectl -t**.

The following option was available in earlier versions but has been removed.

startssl

To start httpd with SSL support, you should edit your configuration file to include the relevant directives and then use the normal **apachectl start**.