NAME

services - service name data base

DESCRIPTION

The **services** file contains information regarding the known services available in the Internet. For each service a single line should be present with the following information:

    official service name
    port number
    protocol name
    aliases

Items are separated by any number of blanks and/or tab characters. The port number and protocol name are considered a single *item*; a ''/'' is used to separate the port and protocol (e.g. ''512/tcp''). A ''#'' indicates the beginning of a comment; subsequent characters up to the end of the line are not interpreted by the routines which search the file.

Service names may contain any printable character other than a field delimiter, newline, or comment character.

If "db" is specified as source in the nsswitch.conf(5), */var/db/services.db* is searched. The database in */var/db/services.db* needs to be updated with services_mkdb(8) after changes to the services file have been applied.

NIS INTERACTION

Access to the NIS *services.byname* map can be enabled by adding a single ''+'' on a line by itself in the */etc/services* file. This causes the contents of the NIS services map to be inserted at the location where the ''+'' appears.

FILES

/etc/services   The **services** file resides in */etc*.

SEE ALSO

getservent(3), nsswitch.conf(5), services_mkdb(8)

HISTORY

The **services** file format appeared in 4.2BSD.

BUGS

A name server should be used instead of a static file.