NAME

shutdown, **poweroff** - close down the system at a given time

SYNOPSIS

shutdown [**-**] [**-c** | **-h** | **-p** | **-r** | **-k**] [**-o** [**-n**]] *time* [*warning-message ...*]
poweroff

DESCRIPTION

The **shutdown** utility provides an automated shutdown procedure for super-users to nicely notify users when the system is shutting down, saving them from system administrators, hackers, and gurus, who would otherwise not bother with such niceties. In order to use the **shutdown** command, the user must have root privileges or be a member of the operator group.

The following options are available:

-c The system is power cycled (power turned off and then back on) at the specified time. If the hardware doesn't support power cycle, the system will be rebooted. At the present time, only systems with BMC supported by the ipmi(4) driver that implement this functionality support this flag. The amount of time the system is off is dependent on the device that implements this feature.

-h The system is halted at the specified *time*.

-p The system is halted and the power is turned off (hardware support required, otherwise the system is halted) at the specified *time*.

-r The system is rebooted at the specified *time*.

-k Kick everybody off. The **-k** option does not actually halt the system, but leaves the system multi-user with logins disabled (for all but super-user).

-o If one of the **-c**, **-h**, **-p** or **-r** options are specified, **shutdown** will execute halt(8) or reboot(8) instead of sending a signal to init(8).

-n If the **-o** option is specified, prevent the file system cache from being flushed by passing **-n** to halt(8) or reboot(8). This option should probably not be used.

time *Time* is the time at which **shutdown** will bring the system down and may be the case-insensitive word *now* (indicating an immediate shutdown) or a future time in one of two formats: +*number*, or *yymmddhhmm*, where the year, month, and day may be defaulted to the current system

values. The first form brings the system down in *number* minutes and the second at the absolute time specified. +*number* may be specified in units other than minutes by appending the corresponding suffix: "s", "sec", "m", "min", "h", "hour".

If an absolute time is specified, but not a date, and that time today has already passed, **shutdown** will assume that the same time tomorrow was meant. (If a complete date is specified which has already passed, **shutdown** will print an error and exit without shutting the system down.)

warning-message
Any other arguments comprise the warning message that is broadcast to users currently logged into the system.

-   If '**-**' is supplied as an option, the warning message is read from the standard input.

At intervals, becoming more frequent as apocalypse approaches and starting at ten hours before shutdown, warning messages are displayed on the terminals of all users logged in. Five minutes before shutdown, or immediately if shutdown is in less than 5 minutes, logins are disabled by creating */var/run/nologin* and copying the warning message there. If this file exists when a user attempts to log in, login(1) prints its contents and exits. The file is removed just before **shutdown** exits.

At shutdown time a message is written to the system log, containing the time of shutdown, the person who initiated the shutdown and the reason. The corresponding signal is then sent to init(8) to respectively halt, reboot or bring the system down to single-user state (depending on the above options). The time of the shutdown and the warning message are placed in */var/run/nologin* and should be used to inform the users about when the system will be back up and why it is going down (or anything else).

A scheduled shutdown can be canceled by killing the **shutdown** process (a SIGTERM should suffice). The */var/run/nologin* file that **shutdown** created will be removed automatically.

When run without options, the **shutdown** utility will place the system into single user mode at the *time* specified.

Calling "**poweroff**" is equivalent to running:

    shutdown -p now

FILES
  /var/run/nologin tells login(1) not to let anyone log in

EXAMPLES

Reboot the system in 30 minutes and display a warning message on the terminals of all users currently logged in:

    # shutdown -r +30 "System will reboot"

COMPATIBILITY

The hours and minutes in the second time format may be separated by a colon ("':'') for backward compatibility.

SEE ALSO

kill(1), login(1), wall(1), nologin(5), halt(8), init(8), reboot(8)

HISTORY

A **shutdown** command was originally written by Ian Johnstone for UNSW's modified AT&T UNIX 6th Edn. It was modified and then incorporated in 4.1BSD.