



Tech Info Library

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

Revised: 9/16/92
Security: Everyone

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.

Tech Info Library Article Number:5937