

NAME

idle – make process 0 idle

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int idle(void);
```

DESCRIPTION

idle() is an internal system call used during bootstrap. It marks the process's pages as swappable, lowers its priority, and enters the main scheduling loop. **idle()** never returns.

Only process 0 may call **idle()**. Any user process, even a process with superuser permission, will receive **EPERM**.

RETURN VALUE

idle() never returns for process 0, and always returns `-1` for a user process.

ERRORS**EPERM**

Always, for a user process.

VERSIONS

Since Linux 2.3.13, this system call does not exist anymore.

CONFORMING TO

This function is Linux-specific, and should not be used in programs intended to be portable.

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 4.16 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.