

NAME

watcherd – file watcher daemon

SYNOPSIS

watcherd [-i *interval*] [-h] *file command* [*arg* ...]

DESCRIPTION

The **watcherd** daemon watches the specified *file* and executes *command* (with zero or more arguments *arg*) whenever it detects that the size of the file has increased.

One common use of **watcherd** is to watch a mail spool file or inbox and play a sound when the size of the file increases (which indicates that new mail has arrived).

The argument *command* must be an absolute or relative path to an executable; it can't simply be the name of an executable that is in the search path. The command cannot rely on the presence of any standard streams, since the daemon redirects these to */dev/null*.

OPTIONS

-i *interval*

Set the sleep interval, in seconds. The interval specifies how often the size of the file will be checked by the daemon.

-h Display a command synopsis and copyright message.

NOTES

If an error occurs while checking the file (for instance, if the file disappears or becomes inaccessible), the daemon exits.

SEE ALSO

biff(1), **audioplay(1)**

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