

# How to manage Linux services using Systemd

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## What is Systemd?

There are a number of Linux computers running Systemd such as in the Linux, Debian, Fedora, Red Hat and Ubuntu distributions that use Systemd by default. Some distributions will be difficult or impossible to run without installing Systemd.

1. 10 Linux distributions you may not know yet

Systemd was designed to replace SysV's old init project, which has been used in UNIX distributions since the 1980s. Lennart Poettering's main developer has also stated that Systemd can do more tasks. init and can act as a development platform and link between individual applications, the Linux kernel.

```

Starting udev Kernel Device Manager...
[ OK ] Started udev Kernel Device Manager.
Starting LSB: Set preliminary keymap...
[ OK ] Started LSB: Set preliminary keymap.
Starting Remount Root and Kernel File Systems...
[ OK ] Started Remount Root and Kernel File Systems.
[ OK ] Reached target Local File Systems (Pre).
Starting Flush Journal to Persistent Storage...
Starting udev Coldplug all Devices...
Starting Load/Save Random Seed...
[ OK ] Reached target Local File Systems.
[ OK ] Reached target Remote File Systems.
Starting LSB: Prepare console...
[ OK ] Started Flush Journal to Persistent Storage.
[ OK ] Started Load/Save Random Seed.
Starting LSB: Raise network interfaces...
Starting Create Volatile Files and Directories...
[ OK ] Started Create Volatile Files and Directories.
Starting Update UTMP about System Boot/Shutdown...
Starting Network Time Synchronization...
[ OK ] Started udev Coldplug all Devices.
[ OK ] Started Update UTMP about System Boot/Shutdown.
    
```

## How to start and stop units

Systemd starts, stops, turns on and turns off "unit". Units include services, mount points, devices and sockets on the computer. In these instructions, you will work with services (.service files), which represent programs on the computer waiting for access for a specific task.

Some Linux distributions have access to Hddtemp, a small utility that checks the temperature of the hard drive. Hddtemp has a .service file and can run as a daemon, so you can start it manually and allow it to activate at startup. This utility is small so you can download and try it with Systemd, you can delete it later if you want.

### 1. Instructions for checking the temperature of CPU, VGA, hard drive of computer, laptop

Install Hddtemp on Arch with the following command:

```
sudo pacman -S hddtemp
```

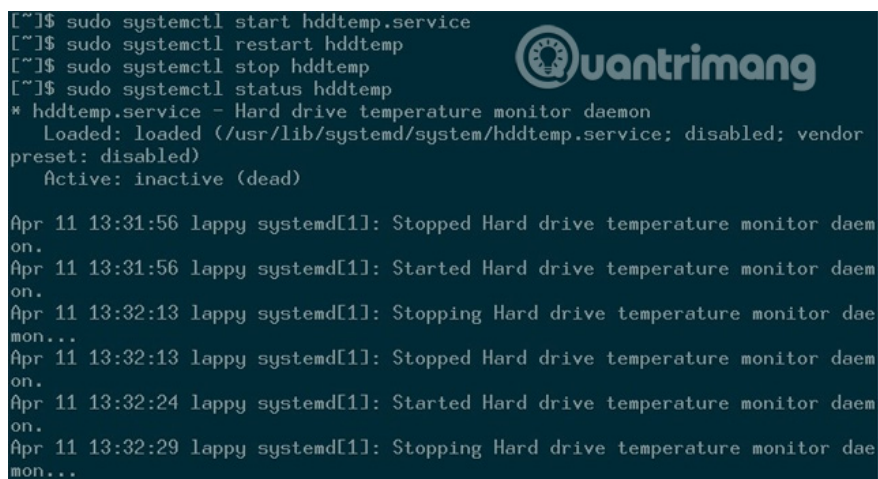
and on Ubuntu with:

```
sudo apt-get install hddtemp
```

Now start the new utility with Systemd:

```
sudo systemctl start hddtemp.service
```

You can then restart, stop and see the status of man-db with the same type of systemctl unit. Notice that the 'unit' works like any 'unit.service' file that you will use.



```
[~]$ sudo systemctl start hddtemp.service
[~]$ sudo systemctl restart hddtemp
[~]$ sudo systemctl stop hddtemp
[~]$ sudo systemctl status hddtemp
* hddtemp.service - Hard drive temperature monitor daemon
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/hddtemp.service; disabled; vendor
   preset: disabled)
   Active: inactive (dead)

Apr 11 13:31:56 lappy systemd[1]: Stopped Hard drive temperature monitor daem
on.
Apr 11 13:31:56 lappy systemd[1]: Started Hard drive temperature monitor daem
on.
Apr 11 13:32:13 lappy systemd[1]: Stopping Hard drive temperature monitor dae
mon...
Apr 11 13:32:13 lappy systemd[1]: Stopped Hard drive temperature monitor daem
on.
Apr 11 13:32:24 lappy systemd[1]: Started Hard drive temperature monitor daem
on.
Apr 11 13:32:29 lappy systemd[1]: Stopping Hard drive temperature monitor dae
mon...
```

sudo systemctl start hddtemp commands, sudo systemctl stop hddtemp , and sudo systemctl restart hddtemp does not create output by default when it runs successfully.

You can get more service information with the following command:

```
sudo systemctl status hddtemp
```

In this case, this command will provide the name of the service, the status of the service (active or inactive) and start / stop made in minutes. If any of the above commands fails or causes an error, those problems will show up in the status report.

## Activate and deactivate units

When starting or stopping a unit, you are completing a manual process that will likely only last for the current session. When restarting, the unit you start may not run automatically.

For units to boot, try turning them on with Hddtemp:

```
sudo systemctl enable hddtemp
```

The output will show that Systemd has created a symbolic link (symlink) to start Hddtemp automatically when the computer is in the boot process. The next time you can use the shortcut:

```
sudo systemctl enable --now unit
```

to activate and start a unit in a command.

```
[*]$ sudo systemctl enable hddtemp
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/hddtemp.service -
> /usr/lib/systemd/system/hddtemp.service.
[*]$ sudo systemctl disable hddtemp
Removed /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/hddtemp.service.
```

You can now disable Hddtemp easily with the following command:

```
sudo systemctl disable hddtemp
```

If you are unsure whether a unit is enabled, you can run the `sudo systemctl is-enabled unit` command.

Now you can remove Hddtemp from your computer if you want.

When using Systemd, the above commands will become useful when managing programs on the computer. Check the 'COMMANDS' section of the Systemctl man page with the command `man systemctl` to see the commands that start, stop, enable, disable, and other commands are more complex than the example above, but you should not worry about the commands. This command is very easy to use.

See more:

1. How to manage Windows Vista services
2. Disable unnecessary services in Windows 7
3. All ways to open Windows Services on Windows 10/8/7

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