

## NAME

avahi-daemon – The Avahi mDNS/DNS-SD daemon

## SYNOPSIS

**avahi-daemon** [*options*]

**avahi-daemon --kill**

**avahi-daemon --reload**

**avahi-daemon --check**

## DESCRIPTION

The Avahi mDNS/DNS-SD daemon implements Apple's Zeroconf architecture (also known as "Rendezvous" or "Bonjour"). The daemon registers local IP addresses and static services using mDNS/DNS-SD and provides two IPC APIs for local programs to make use of the mDNS record cache the avahi-daemon maintains. First there is the so called "simple protocol" which is used exclusively by avahi-dnscfgd (a daemon which configures unicast DNS servers using server info published via mDNS) and nss-mdns (a libc NSS plugin, providing name resolution via mDNS). Finally there is the D-Bus interface which provides a rich object oriented interface to D-Bus enabled applications.

Upon startup avahi-daemon interprets its configuration file */etc/avahi/avahi-daemon.conf* and reads XML fragments from */etc/avahi/services/\*.service* which may define static DNS-SD services. If you enable **publish-resolv-conf-dns-servers** in *avahi-daemon.conf* the file */etc/resolv.conf* will be read, too.

## OPTIONS

**-f** | **--file=** *FILE*

Specify the configuration file to read. (default: */etc/avahi/avahi-daemon.conf*)

**-D** | **--daemonize**

Daemonize after startup. Implies **--syslog**.

**-s** | **--syslog**

Log to syslog instead of STDERR. Implied by **--daemonize**.

**--debug**

Increase verbosity to debug level.

**--no-rlimits**

Don't enforce resource limits as specified in the configuration file. (See **setrlimit(2)** for more information)

**--no-drop-root**

Don't drop root privileges after startup and don't require daemon to be started as root. We recommend not to use this option.

**--no-chroot**

Don't **chroot(2)** the daemon. This option is only available when compiled with chroot() support.

**--no-proc-title**

Don't change the process name while running. Unless this option is specified avahi-daemon will reflect its current state and the selected host name in the process title.

**-k** | **--kill**

Kill an already running avahi-daemon. (equivalent to sending a SIGTERM)

**-r** | **--reload**

Tell an already running avahi-daemon to reread */etc/resolv.conf* (in case you enabled **publish-resolv-conf-dns-servers** in *avahi-daemon.conf*) and the files from */etc/avahi/services/*. Please note that this will not reload the */etc/avahi/avahi-daemon.conf*. (equivalent to sending a SIGHUP)

**-c | --check**

Return 0 as return code when avahi-daemon is already running.

**-h | --help**

Show help

**-v | --version**

Show version information

## FILES

*/etc/avahi/avahi-daemon.conf*: the default configuration file for avahi-daemon, see **avahi-daemon.conf(5)** for more information.

*/etc/avahi/hosts*: additional static hostname mappings to publish in mDNS, see **avahi.hosts(5)** for more information.

*/etc/avahi/services/\*.service*: static service definitions, see **avahi.service(5)** for more information.

## SIGNALS

*SIGINT*, *SIGTERM*: avahi-daemon will shutdown. (Same as **--kill**).

*SIGHUP*: avahi-daemon will reload unicast DNS server data from */etc/resolv.conf* and static service definitions from */etc/avahi/services/*. (Same as **--reload**)

*SIGUSR1*: avahi-daemon will dump local and remote cached resource record data to syslog.

## AUTHORS

The Avahi Developers <avahi (at) lists (dot) freedesktop (dot) org>; Avahi is available from **<http://avahi.org/>**

## SEE ALSO

**avahi-daemon.conf(5)**, **avahi.hosts(5)**, **avahi.service(5)**, **avahi-dnsconfd(8)**, **avahi-set-host-name(1)**

<http://avahi.org/wiki/AvahiAndUnicastDotLocal> documents the problems when using Avahi in a unicast DNS zone *.local*.

## COMMENTS

This man page was written using **xml2man(1)** by Oliver Kurth.