

NAME

sync - schedule file system updates

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

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

void

```
sync(void);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **sync()** system call forces a write of dirty (modified) buffers in the block buffer cache out to disk. The kernel keeps this information in core to reduce the number of disk I/O transfers required by the system. As information in the cache is lost after a system crash, a **sync()** system call is issued frequently by the kernel process syncer(4) (about every 30 seconds).

The fsync(2) system call may be used to synchronize individual file descriptor attributes.

SEE ALSO

fsync(2), syncer(4), sync(8)

HISTORY

The **sync()** function appeared in Version 3 AT&T UNIX.

BUGS

The **sync()** system call may return before the buffers are completely flushed.