

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 6 AT&T UNIX.

BUGS

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

