

Daemon

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Daemon is a process that runs in the background and performs a specified operation at predefined times or in response to certain events.

The term daemon is a UNIX term, though many other [operating systems](#) provide support for daemons, though they're sometimes called other names. Windows, for example, refers to daemons as System Agents and services.

Typical daemon processes include print spoolers, e-mail handlers, and other programs that perform administrative tasks for the operating system. The term comes from Greek mythology, where daemons were guardian spirits.

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