

**NAME**

**proximmon** — Proximity monitor

**SYNOPSIS**

```
proximmon [ -e] [ -h] [ -v] [ -c file] [ -t runtime] [ -E file]
```

**DESCRIPTION**

**proximmon** determines presence of people by checking whether their personal devices such as laptops and smartphones are reachable on the immediate network or, for Bluetooth devices, within range. User-supplied commands are executed when **proximmon** initially determines presence, and when that subsequently changes.

Several methods for determining presence are available:

Bluetooth	On Linux, uses Bluetooth L2CAP Echo Request to a Bluetooth MAC address, requiring root privileges. On macOS, uses the IOBluetooth framework to query the device's name; root is not necessary.
IPv4 Address	Uses ICMP Echo Requests to a fixed IPv4 address. Works best with root privileges, but will fall back to sending UDP packets to the target, and monitoring the ARP cache.
ARP	Monitors the local ARP cache. To solicit population, the local subnet is probed by sending UDP packets to any any address not in the ARP cache. This triggers an ARP who-has to be broadcast, prompting the requested node to identify itself.
IPv6 Address	Uses ICMP Echo Requests to a fixed IPv6 address. Requires root privileges.
Hostname	Resolves a hosts's name, then pings the host to check presence. It supports IPv4 and IPv6. Names are resolved using <code>getaddrinfo(3)</code> . If your system supports multicast DNS, DHCP-assigned hosts may be located using the top-level pseudodomain <code>.local</code> . Alternately, <code>dnsmasq(8)</code> is a combined DHCP/DNS server that offers name resolution for hosts on the local subnet.

**OPTIONS**

<b>-c</b> <i>file</i>	Read configuration from the specified file.
<b>-e</b>	Read MAC addressees from <code>/etc/ethers</code> .
<b>-E</b> <i>file</i>	Read MAC addresses from the specified file, which should use <code>ethers(5)</code> format.
<b>-t</b> <i>seconds</i>	Run the specified number of seconds, then exit.
<b>-v</b>	Display version number and exit. Repeating the flag lists the compiled-in presence detection schemes.
<b>-Z</b> <i>level</i>	Adjust logging level. Reasonable settings: 0 = no messages, 1 = errors only, 2 adds warnings. Higher values get increasingly verbose.

**EXIT STATUS**

After initial startup, unless the **-t** flag is in use, the program will not exit. Even at startup, errors result in a message but **proximmon** perseveres if possible.

0	<b>proximmon</b> exited normally after running for the time specified by <b>-t</b> .
>0	An error occurred.

**FILES**

`/etc/ethers` System file with ethernet-hostname mappings.

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**SEE ALSO**

`ethers(5)`, `proximmon-config.json(5)`, `dnsmasq(1)`

RFC 6762, Multicast DNS