Why there are 3 processes for nginx?

Asked 4 years, 10 months ago Modified 3 years ago Viewed 4k times



My OS is Ubuntu, I use ps -aux |grep nginx|, and I've found 3 nginx's processes; so my question is why there are 3 processes for nginx? it seems one process is by root, another two from www-data:







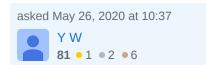


			0.0 126092 aemon on; ma			12:32	0:00 nginx: master process
www-data	7834	0.0	0.0 126504	3124 ?	S	12:32	0:00 nginx: worker process
www-data	7835	0.0	0.1 126504	5068 ?	S	12:32	0:00 nginx: worker process

nginx nginx-config

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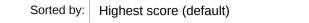


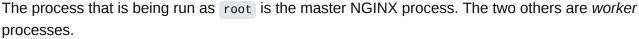


1 Run nginx -g "master_process on; daemon on;" , see $\underline{\text{master process}}$ - Nick Dong Jun 7, 2023 at 10:04 \nearrow

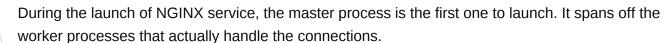
2 Answers

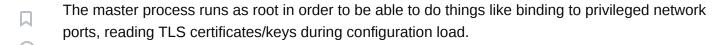












The worker processes have dropped privileges, as they only require to be able to read website files.

The number of worker processes can be controlled with <u>worker processes</u> configuration directive. The default value is 1. Which means on a system with default config you will see a total of 2 processes (1 master and 1 worker).

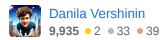
The more worker processes you have, the more connections your web server can handle *on a multi-core system*.

E.g. you have 4 core CPU. By setting worker_processes 4; you make sure that all cores are being used to handle connections, so it is going to improve performance on a busy website.

Moreover you can just set worker_processes auto; . That will have NGINX determine the number of logical CPU units and set the number of workers corresponding to that.

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answered May 26, 2020 at 11:48





The root process is necessary for nginx to access the network and files on your system.



The other two processes are set in your config file. Look there and you will see a setting for that which is dependent on the number of cores in the processor on your server. More available processes means more compute power as access to your server increases with visitors.



It's possible (I do not recall) that two processes is a default setting.



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answered May 26, 2020 at 10:48



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