

# Running the IcePatch2 Server

This page describes how to run the IcePatch2 server.

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## Starting icepatch2server

Once you have run [icepatch2calc](#) on the data directory, you can start the `icepatch2server`:

```
$ icepatch2server .
```

The server expects the data directory as its single command-line argument. If you omit to specify the data directory, the server uses the setting of the [IcePatch2.Directory](#) property to determine the data directory.

The server has two different sets of endpoints, one for regular operations, and one for administration:

- [IcePatch2.Endpoints](#)  
This property determines the endpoint at which the server listens for client requests. This property must be specified.
- [IcePatch2.Admin.Endpoints](#)  
If this property is not set, the only way to shut down the server is to kill it somehow, such as by interrupting the server from the command line. If this property is set, the server offers an additional `IcePatch2::Admin` interface:

### Slice

```
interface Admin {
    void shutdown();
};
```

By default, the identity of this object is `IcePatch2/admin`. You can change the category of this identity by setting the property `IcePatch2.InstanceName`.

Calling the `shutdown` operation shuts down the server. Note that any client with access to the `Admin` interface's port can stop the server. Typically, you would set this property to a port that is not accessible to potentially hostile clients.

## icepatch2server Command Line Options

Regardless of whether you run the server under Windows or a Unix-like operating system, it provides the following options:

- `-h, --help`  
Displays a help message.
- `-v, --version`  
Displays a version number.

Additional command line options are supported, including those that allow the server to run as a [Windows service](#) or [Unix daemon](#).

### See Also

- [The Server-Side main Function in C++](#)