

# 128 Return Code

**Source:** <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VC/microsoft.public.vc.language/2004-11/0063.html>

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**Date:** 11/01/04

Date: Mon, 1 Nov 2004 12:16:02 -0800

I have a C++ program that executes a command line through the system function. In the command line, I execute another program that will pipe its output to a third program.

ie:

```
system("prg1.exe | prg2.exe");
```

This statement works most of the time.

On occasions, I will get a 128 error code.

Based on some debugging statements I placed in prg1 and prg2, prg1 executes and completes successfully (return code 0), I then get a 128 error code without prg2 ever executing (no messages associated with prg2 start up).

No where in prg2 or prg1 do I return back a 128 status code.

The 128 error code seems to be coming from the OS as a result of its inability to start up the second program prg2.

The error is intermittent and seems to occur during peak usage.

Does any one know of any documentation that outlines a 128 error code associated to some type of OS resource constraint.