

## NAME

stat, fstat, lstat — get file status

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int stat(const char *path, struct stat *buf);
int fstat(int fd, struct stat *buf);
int lstat(const char *path, struct stat *buf);
```

## DESCRIPTION

These functions return information about a file. No permissions are required on the file itself, but — in the case of `stat()` and `lstat()` — execute (search) permission is required on all of the directories in `path` that lead to the file.

`stat()` stats the file pointed to by `path` and fills in `buf`.

`lstat()` is identical to `stat()`, except that if `path` is a symbolic link, then the link itself is stat-ed, not the file that it refers to.

`fstat()` is identical to `stat()`, except that the file to be stat-ed is specified by the file descriptor `fd`.

All of these system calls return a `stat` structure, which contains the following fields:

```
struct stat {
    dev_t    st_dev;        /* ID of device containing file */
    ino_t    st_ino;        /* inode number */
    mode_t   st_mode;       /* protection */
    nlink_t  st_nlink;     /* number of hard links */
    uid_t    st_uid;       /* user ID of owner */
    gid_t    st_gid;       /* group ID of owner */
    dev_t    st_rdev;      /* device ID (if special file) */
    unsigned st_size;      /* total size, in bytes */
    blksize_t st_blksize;  /* blocksz for file system I/O */
    blkcnt_t st_blocks;    /* number of blocks allocated */
    time_t   st_atime;     /* time of last access */
    time_t   st_mtime;     /* time of last modification */
    time_t   st_ctime;     /* time of last status change */
};
```

The `st_dev` field describes the device on which this file resides.

The `st_rdev` field describes the device that this file (inode) represents.

The `st_size` field gives the size of the file (if it is a regular file or a symbolic link) in bytes. The size of a symlink is the length of the pathname it contains, without a trailing null byte.

The `st_blocks` field indicates the number of blocks allocated to the file, 512-byte units. (This may be smaller than `st_size/512` when the file has holes.)

The `st_blksize` field gives the "preferred" blocksz for efficient file system I/O. (Writing to a file in smaller chunks may cause an inefficient read-modify-rewrite.)

Not all of the Linux file systems implement all of the time fields. Some file system types allow mounting in such a way that file accesses do not cause an update of the `st_atime` field.

## NAME

opendir — open a directory / readdir — read a directory / closedir — close a directory

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <dirent.h>

DIR *opendir(const char *name);
int closedir(DIR *dir);

struct dirent *readdir(DIR *dir);
int readdir_r(DIR *dirp, struct dirent *entry, struct dirent **result);
```

## DESCRIPTION opendir

The `opendir()` function opens a directory stream corresponding to the directory `name`, and returns a pointer to the directory stream. The stream is positioned at the first entry in the directory.

## RETURN VALUE

The `opendir()` function returns a pointer to the directory stream or NULL if an error occurred.

## DESCRIPTION closedir

The `closedir()` function closes the directory stream associated with `dir`. The directory stream descriptor `dir` is not available after this call.

## RETURN VALUE

The `closedir()` function returns 0 on success. On error, `-1` is returned, and `errno` is set appropriately.

## DESCRIPTION readdir

The `readdir()` function returns a pointer to a `dirent` structure representing the next directory entry in the directory stream pointed to by `dir`. It returns NULL on reaching the end-of-file or if an error occurred.

The data returned by `readdir()` is overwritten by subsequent calls to `readdir()` for the `same` directory stream. The `dirent` structure is defined as follows:

```
struct dirent {
    long      d_ino;        /* inode number */
    long      d_off;        /* offset to the next dirent */
    unsigned short d_reclen; /* length of this record */
    unsigned char d_type;   /* type of file; not supported by all filesystem types */
    char      d_name[256]; /* filename */
};
```

## RETURN VALUE

On success, `readdir()` returns a pointer to a `dirent` structure. If the end of the directory stream is reached, NULL is returned and `errno` is not changed. If an error occurs, NULL is returned and `errno` is set appropriately.

## ERRORS

**EACCES**  
Permission denied.

**ENOENT**  
Directory does not exist, or `name` is an empty string.

**ENOTDIR**  
`name` is not a directory.

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time(2) unlink(2) unlink(2)

**NAME** time – get time in seconds unlink – delete file

**SYNOPSIS** `#include <time.h>` `#include <unistd.h>`

**DESCRIPTION** `time()` returns the time as the number of seconds since the Epoch, 1970-01-01 00:00:00 +0000 (UTC). The *itloc* argument is obsolescent and should always be NULL in new code. When *itloc* is NULL, the call cannot fail.

**RETURN VALUE** On success, the value of time in seconds since the Epoch is returned. On error,  $((time\_t) - 1)$  is returned, and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

**ERRORS** **EFAULT** *itloc* points outside your accessible address space.

**NAME** unlink(2) unlink(2) unlink(2)

**NAME** unlink – delete file

**SYNOPSIS** `#include <unistd.h>`

**DESCRIPTION** `unlink()` deletes a name from the filesystem. If that name was the last link to a file and no processes have the file open, the file is deleted and the space it was using is made available for reuse. If the name was the last link to a file but any processes still have the file open, the file will remain in existence until the last file descriptor referring to it is closed.

**RETURN VALUE** On success, zero is returned. On error,  $-1$  is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

**ERRORS** **EACCES** Permission denied.

**EFAULT** *pathname* points outside your accessible address space.

**EIO** An I/O error occurred.

**EISDIR** *pathname* refers to a directory. (This is the non-POSIX value returned since Linux 2.1.132.)

**ELOOP** Too many symbolic links were encountered in translating *pathname*.

**ENAMETOOLONG** *pathname* was too long.

**ENOENT** A component in *pathname* does not exist or is a dangling symbolic link, or *pathname* is empty.

**ENOMEM** Insufficient kernel memory was available.

**ENOTDIR** A component used as a directory in *pathname* is not, in fact, a directory.

**EPERM** The filesystem does not allow unlinking of files.

**EROFS** *pathname* refers to a file on a read-only filesystem.

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