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# Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'gets.3'

# \$ man gets.3

GETS(3) Linux Programmer's Manual

GETS(3)

# NAME

gets - get a string from standard input (DEPRECATED)

# SYNOPSIS

#include <stdio.h>

char \*gets(char \*s);

# DESCRIPTION

Never use this function.

gets() reads a line from stdin into the buffer pointed to by s until either a terminating

newline or EOF, which it replaces with a null byte ('\0'). No check for buffer overrun is

performed (see BUGS below).

#### **RETURN VALUE**

gets() returns s on success, and NULL on error or when end of file occurs while no charac? ters have been read. However, given the lack of buffer overrun checking, there can be no guarantees that the function will even return.

# ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see attributes(7).

?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

?gets() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe ?

#### CONFORMING TO

C89, C99, POSIX.1-2001.

LSB deprecates gets(). POSIX.1-2008 marks gets() obsolescent. ISO C11 removes the speci? fication of gets() from the C language, and since version 2.16, glibc header files don't expose the function declaration if the \_ISOC11\_SOURCE feature test macro is defined.

#### BUGS

Never use gets(). Because it is impossible to tell without knowing the data in advance how many characters gets() will read, and because gets() will continue to store characters past the end of the buffer, it is extremely dangerous to use. It has been used to break computer security. Use fgets() instead.

For more information, see CWE-242 (aka "Use of Inherently Dangerous Function") at http://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/242.html

#### SEE ALSO

read(2), write(2), ferror(3), fgetc(3), fgets(3), fgetwc(3), fgetws(3), fopen(3), fread(3), fseek(3), getline(3), getwchar(3), puts(3), scanf(3), ungetwc(3), un? locked\_stdio(3), feature\_test\_macros(7)

### COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.10 of the Linux man-pages project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/.

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