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

***\$ man mbsinit.3***

MBSINIT(3)                      Linux Programmer's Manual                      MBSINIT(3)

NAME

mbsinit - test for initial shift state

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <wchar.h>
```

```
int mbsinit(const mbstate_t *ps);
```

DESCRIPTION

Character conversion between the multibyte representation and the wide character representation uses conversion state, of type `mbstate_t`. Conversion of a string uses a finite-state machine; when it is interrupted after the complete conversion of a number of characters, it may need to save a state for processing the remaining characters. Such a conversion state is needed for the sake of encodings such as ISO-2022 and UTF-7.

The initial state is the state at the beginning of conversion of a string. There are two kinds of state: the one used by multibyte to wide character conversion functions, such as `mbsrtowcs(3)`, and the one used by wide character to multibyte conversion functions, such as `wcsrtombs(3)`, but they both fit in a `mbstate_t`, and they both have the same representation for an initial state.

For 8-bit encodings, all states are equivalent to the initial state. For multibyte encodings like UTF-8, EUC-\*, BIG5 or SJIS, the wide character to multibyte conversion functions never produce non-initial states, but the multibyte to wide-character conversion functions like `mbrtowc(3)` do produce non-initial states when interrupted in the middle of a character.

One possible way to create an `mbstate_t` in initial state is to set it to zero:

```
mbstate_t state;
memset(&state, 0, sizeof(state));
```

On Linux, the following works as well, but might generate compiler warnings:

```
mbstate_t state = { 0 };
```

The function mbsinit() tests whether \*ps corresponds to an initial state.

## RETURN VALUE

mbsinit() returns nonzero if \*ps is an initial state, or if ps is NULL. Otherwise, it returns 0.

## ATTRIBUTES

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

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?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

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

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## CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C99.

## NOTES

The behavior of mbsinit() depends on the LC\_CTYPE category of the current locale.

## SEE ALSO

mbrlen(3), mbrtowc(3), mbsrtowcs(3), wctomb(3), wcsrtombs(3)

## COLOPHON

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