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

**\$ man rtnetlink.3**

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

#### NAME

rtnetlink - macros to manipulate rtnetlink messages

#### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <asm/types.h>
#include <linux/netlink.h>
#include <linux/rtnetlink.h>
#include <sys/socket.h>

rtnetlink_socket = socket(AF_NETLINK, int socket_type, NETLINK_ROUTE);
int RTA_OK(struct rtattr *rta, int rtauflen);
void *RTA_DATA(struct rtattr *rta);
unsigned int RTA_PAYLOAD(struct rtattr *rta);
struct rtattr *RTA_NEXT(struct rtattr *rta, unsigned int rtauflen);
unsigned int RTA_LENGTH(unsigned int length);
unsigned int RTA_SPACE(unsigned int length);
```

#### DESCRIPTION

All `rtnetlink(7)` messages consist of a `netlink(7)` message header and appended attributes. The attributes should be manipulated only using the macros provided here.

`RTA_OK(rta, attrlen)` returns true if `rta` points to a valid routing attribute; `attrlen` is the running length of the attribute buffer. When not true then you must assume there are no more attributes in the message, even if `attrlen` is nonzero.

`RTA_DATA(rta)` returns a pointer to the start of this attribute's data.

`RTA_PAYLOAD(rta)` returns the length of this attribute's data.

RTA\_NEXT(rta, attrlen) gets the next attribute after rta. Calling this macro will update attrlen. You should use RTA\_OK to check the validity of the returned pointer.

RTA\_LENGTH(len) returns the length which is required for len bytes of data plus the header.

RTA\_SPACE(len) returns the amount of space which will be needed in a message with len bytes of data.

## CONFORMING TO

These macros are nonstandard Linux extensions.

## BUGS

This manual page is incomplete.

## EXAMPLES

Creating a rtnetlink message to set the MTU of a device:

```
#include <linux/rtnetlink.h>

...

struct {
    struct nlmsg_hdr nh;
    struct ifinfomsg if;
    char attrbuf[512];
} req;

struct rtattr *rta;

unsigned int mtu = 1000;

int rtnetlink_sk = socket(AF_NETLINK, SOCK_DGRAM, NETLINK_ROUTE);

memset(&req, 0, sizeof(req));

req.nh.nlmsg_len = NLMSG_LENGTH(sizeof(req.if));
req.nh.nlmsg_flags = NLM_F_REQUEST;
req.nh.nlmsg_type = RTM_NEWLINK;
req.if.if_family = AF_UNSPEC;
req.if.if_index = INTERFACE_INDEX;
req.if.if_change = 0xffffffff; /* ??? */

rta = (struct rtattr *)(((char *) &req) +
                        NLMSG_ALIGN(req.nh.nlmsg_len));

rta->rta_type = IFLA_MTU;

rta->rta_len = RTA_LENGTH(sizeof(mtu));
```

```
req.nh.nlmsg_len = NLMSG_ALIGN(req.nh.nlmsg_len) +
    RTA_LENGTH(sizeof(mtu));
memcpy(RTA_DATA(rta), &mtu, sizeof(mtu));
send(rtnetlink_sk, &req, req.nh.nlmsg_len, 0);
```

#### SEE ALSO

netlink(3), netlink(7), rtnetlink(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/>.

GNU

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