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Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'atexit.3' command

$ man atexit.3

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

NAME

atexit - register a function to be called at normal process termination

SYNOPSIS

#include <stdlib.h>

int atexit(void (*function)(void));

DESCRIPTION

The atexit() function registers the given function to be called at nor?
mal process termination, either via exit(3) or via return from the pro?
gram's main(). Functions so registered are called in the reverse order
of their registration; no arguments are passed.

The same function may be registered multiple times: it is called once
for each registration.

POSIX.1 requires that an implementation allow at least ATEXIT_MAX (32)
such functions to be registered. The actual limit supported by an im?
plementation can be obtained using sysconf(3).

When a child process is created via fork(2), it inherits copies of its
parent's registrations. Upon a successful call to one of the exec(3)
functions, all registrations are removed.

RETURN VALUE

The atexit() function returns the value 0 if successful; otherwise it
returns a nonzero value.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
atexit()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C89, C99, SVr4, 4.3BSD.

NOTES

Functions registered using atexit() (and on_exit(3)) are not called if a process terminates abnormally because of the delivery of a signal.

If one of the registered functions calls _exit(2), then any remaining functions are not invoked, and the other process termination steps per? formed by exit(3) are not performed.

POSIX.1 says that the result of calling exit(3) more than once (i.e., calling exit(3) within a function registered using atexit()) is unde? fined. On some systems (but not Linux), this can result in an infinite recursion; portable programs should not invoke exit(3) inside a func? tion registered using atexit().

The atexit() and on_exit(3) functions register functions on the same list: at normal process termination, the registered functions are in? voked in reverse order of their registration by these two functions.

According to POSIX.1, the result is undefined if longjmp(3) is used to terminate execution of one of the functions registered using atexit().

Linux notes

Since glibc 2.2.3, atexit() (and on_exit(3)) can be used within a shared library to establish functions that are called when the shared library is unloaded.

EXAMPLES

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
void
bye(void)
{
    printf("That was all, folks\n");
}
int
main(void)
{
    long a;
    int i;
    a = sysconf(_SC_ATEXIT_MAX);
    printf("ATEXIT_MAX = %ld\n", a);
    i = atexit(bye);
    if (i != 0) {
        fprintf(stderr, "cannot set exit function\n");
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    }
    exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);
}
```

SEE ALSO

_exit(2), dlopen(3), exit(3), on_exit(3)

COLOPHON

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