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## ***Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'endpwent.3' command***

### ***\$ man endpwent.3***

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

#### NAME

getpwent, setpwent, endpwent - get password file entry

#### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <pwd.h>
struct passwd *getpwent(void);
void setpwent(void);
void endpwent(void);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature\_test\_macros(7)):

```
getpwent(), setpwent(), endpwent():
_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500
  || /* Glibc since 2.19: */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE
  || /* Glibc versions <= 2.19: */ _BSD_SOURCE || _SVID_SOURCE
```

#### DESCRIPTION

The `getpwent()` function returns a pointer to a structure containing the broken-out fields of a record from the password database (e.g., the local password file `/etc/passwd`, NIS, and LDAP). The first time `getpwent()` is called, it returns the first entry; thereafter, it returns successive entries.

The `setpwent()` function rewinds to the beginning of the password database.

The `endpwent()` function is used to close the password database after

all processing has been performed.

The passwd structure is defined in <pwd.h> as follows:

```
struct passwd {
    char *pw_name;    /* username */
    char *pw_passwd; /* user password */
    uid_t pw_uid;    /* user ID */
    gid_t pw_gid;    /* group ID */
    char *pw_gecos;  /* user information */
    char *pw_dir;    /* home directory */
    char *pw_shell;  /* shell program */
};
```

For more information about the fields of this structure, see passwd(5).

## RETURN VALUE

The `getpwent()` function returns a pointer to a `passwd` structure, or `NULL` if there are no more entries or an error occurred. If an error occurs, `errno` is set appropriately. If one wants to check `errno` after the call, it should be set to zero before the call.

The return value may point to a static area, and may be overwritten by subsequent calls to `getpwent()`, `getpwnam(3)`, or `getpwuid(3)`. (Do not pass the returned pointer to `free(3)`.)

## ERRORS

**EINTR** A signal was caught; see `signal(7)`.

**EIO** I/O error.

**EMFILE** The per-process limit on the number of open file descriptors has been reached.

**ENFILE** The system-wide limit on the total number of open files has been reached.

**ENOMEM** Insufficient memory to allocate `passwd` structure.

**ERANGE** Insufficient buffer space supplied.

## FILES

`/etc/passwd`

local password database file

## ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see at?

tributes(7).

??

?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

??

?getpwent() ? Thread safety ? MT-Unsafe race:pwent ?

? ? ? race:pwentbuf locale ?

??

?setpwent(), ? Thread safety ? MT-Unsafe race:pwent locale ?

?endpwent() ? ? ?

??

In the above table, pwent in race:pwent signifies that if any of the functions setpwent(), getpwent(), or endpwent() are used in parallel in different threads of a program, then data races could occur.

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, SVr4, 4.3BSD. The pw\_gecos field is not specified in POSIX, but is present on most implementations.

SEE ALSO

fgetpwent(3), getpw(3), getpwent\_r(3), getpwnam(3), getpwuid(3), putpwent(3), passwd(5)

COLOPHON

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