



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

\$ man getpw.3

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

NAME

getpw - reconstruct password line entry

SYNOPSIS

```
#define _GNU_SOURCE           /* See feature_test_macros(7) */  
  
#include <sys/types.h>  
  
#include <pwd.h>  
  
int getpw(uid_t uid, char *buf);
```

DESCRIPTION

The getpw() function reconstructs the password line entry for the given user ID uid in the buffer buf. The returned buffer contains a line of format

```
name:passwd:uid:gid:gecos:dir:shell
```

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 getpw() function returns 0 on success; on error, it returns -1, and errno is set to indicate the error.

If uid is not found in the password database, getpw() returns -1, sets errno to 0, and leaves buf unchanged.

ERRORS

0 or ENOENT

No user corresponding to uid.

EINVAL buf is NULL.

ENOMEM Insufficient memory to allocate passwd structure.

FILES

/etc/passwd

password database file

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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?getpw() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe locale ?

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CONFORMING TO

SVr2.

BUGS

The getpw() function is dangerous as it may overflow the provided buf?fer buf. It is obsoleted by getpwuid(3).

SEE ALSO

endpwent(3), fgetpwent(3), getpwent(3), getpwnam(3), getpwuid(3), putpwent(3), setpwent(3), passwd(5)

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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