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

\$ man gets.3

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

NAME

gets - get a string from standard input (DEPRECATED)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdio.h>
char *gets(char *s);
```

DESCRIPTION

Never use this function.

gets() reads a line from stdin into the buffer pointed to by s until either a terminating newline or EOF, which it replaces with a null byte ('\0'). No check for buffer overrun is performed (see BUGS below).

RETURN VALUE

gets() returns s on success, and NULL on error or when end of file occurs while no characters have been read. However, given the lack of buffer overrun checking, there can be no guarantees that the function will even return.

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

??

CONFORMING TO

C89, C99, POSIX.1-2001.

LSB deprecates `gets()`. POSIX.1-2008 marks `gets()` obsolescent. ISO C11 removes the specification of `gets()` from the C language, and since version 2.16, glibc header files don't expose the function declaration if the `_ISOC11_SOURCE` feature test macro is defined.

BUGS

Never use `gets()`. Because it is impossible to tell without knowing the data in advance how many characters `gets()` will read, and because `gets()` will continue to store characters past the end of the buffer, it is extremely dangerous to use. It has been used to break computer security. Use `fgets()` instead.

For more information, see CWE-242 (aka "Use of Inherently Dangerous Function") at <http://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/242.html>

SEE ALSO

`read(2)`, `write(2)`, `ferror(3)`, `fgetc(3)`, `fgets(3)`, `fgetwc(3)`, `fgetws(3)`, `fopen(3)`, `fread(3)`, `fseek(3)`, `getline(3)`, `getwchar(3)`, `puts(3)`, `scanf(3)`, `ungetwc(3)`, `unlocked_stdio(3)`, `feature_test_macros(7)`

COLOPHON

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GNU 2017-09-15 GETS(3)