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

\$ man iconv_open.3

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

NAME

iconv_open - allocate descriptor for character set conversion

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <iconv.h>
```

```
iconv_t iconv_open(const char *tocode, const char *fromcode);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `iconv_open()` function allocates a conversion descriptor suitable for converting byte sequences from character encoding `fromcode` to character encoding `tocode`.

The values permitted for `fromcode` and `tocode` and the supported combinations are system-dependent. For the GNU C library, the permitted values are listed by the `iconv --list` command, and all combinations of the listed values are supported. Furthermore the GNU C library and the GNU libiconv library support the following two suffixes:

//TRANSLIT

When the string "//TRANSLIT" is appended to `tocode`, transliteration is activated. This means that when a character cannot be represented in the target character set, it can be approximated through one or several similarly looking characters.

//IGNORE

When the string "//IGNORE" is appended to `tocode`, characters that cannot be represented in the target character set will be

silently discarded.

The resulting conversion descriptor can be used with `iconv(3)` any number of times. It remains valid until deallocated using `iconv_close(3)`.

A conversion descriptor contains a conversion state. After creation using `iconv_open()`, the state is in the initial state. Using `iconv(3)` modifies the descriptor's conversion state. To bring the state back to the initial state, use `iconv(3)` with `NULL` as `inbuf` argument.

RETURN VALUE

The `iconv_open()` function returns a freshly allocated conversion descriptor. In case of error, it sets `errno` and returns `(iconv_t) -1`.

ERRORS

The following error can occur, among others:

EINVAL The conversion from `fromcode` to `tocode` is not supported by the implementation.

VERSIONS

This function is available in `glibc` since version 2.1.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see [attributes\(7\)](#).

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?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????

?`iconv_open()` ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe locale ?

????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, SUSv2.

SEE ALSO

`iconv(1)`, `iconv(3)`, `iconv_close(3)`

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/>.

