



## ***Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'keyutils.7' command***

***\$ man keyutils.7***

KEYUTILS(7)            Kernel key management            KEYUTILS(7)

NAME

keyutils - in-kernel key management utilities

DESCRIPTION

The keyutils package is a library and a set of utilities for accessing the kernel keyrings facility.

A header file is supplied to provide the definitions and declarations required to access the library:

```
#include <keyutils.h>
```

To link with the library, the following:

```
-lkeyutils
```

should be specified to the linker.

Three system calls are provided:

add\_key(2)

Supply a new key to the kernel.

request\_key(2)

Find an existing key for use, or, optionally, create one if one does not exist.

keyctl(2)

Control a key in various ways. The library provides a variety of wrappers around this system call and those should be used rather than calling it directly.

See the add\_key(2), request\_key(2), and keyctl(2) manual pages for more

information.

The `keyctl()` wrappers are listed on the `keyctl(3)` manual page.

## UTILITIES

A program is provided to interact with the kernel facility by a number of subcommands, e.g.:

```
keyctl add user foo bar @s
```

See the `keyctl(1)` manual page for information on that.

The kernel has the ability to upcall to userspace to fabricate new keys. This can be triggered by `request_key()`, but userspace is better off using `add_key()` instead if it possibly can.

The upcalling mechanism is usually routed via the `request-key(8)` program. What this does with any particular key is configurable in:

```
/etc/request-key.conf
```

```
/etc/request-key.d/
```

See the `request-key.conf(5)` and the `request-key(8)` manual pages for more information.

## SEE ALSO

`keyctl(1)`, `keyctl(3)`, `keyrings(7)`, `persistent-keyring(7)`,  
`process-keyring(7)`, `session-keyring(7)`, `thread-keyring(7)`,  
`user-keyring(7)`, `user-session-keyring(7)`, `pam_keyinit(8)`