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## Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'malloc\_usable\_size.3' command

**\$ man malloc\_usable\_size.3**

MALLOC\_USABLE\_SIZE(3) Linux Programmer's Manual MALLOC\_USABLE\_SIZE(3)

### NAME

malloc\_usable\_size - obtain size of block of memory allocated from heap

### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <malloc.h>

size_t malloc_usable_size (void *ptr);
```

### DESCRIPTION

The malloc\_usable\_size() function returns the number of usable bytes in the block pointed to by ptr, a pointer to a block of memory allocated by malloc(3) or a related function.

### RETURN VALUE

malloc\_usable\_size() returns the number of usable bytes in the block of allocated memory pointed to by ptr. If ptr is NULL, 0 is returned.

### ATTRIBUTES

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

??  
?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?  
??  
?malloc\_usable\_size() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe ?  
??

### CONFORMING TO

This function is a GNU extension.

## NOTES

The value returned by `malloc_usable_size()` may be greater than the requested size of the allocation because of alignment and minimum size constraints. Although the excess bytes can be overwritten by the application without ill effects, this is not good programming practice: the number of excess bytes in an allocation depends on the underlying implementation.

The main use of this function is for debugging and introspection.

## SEE ALSO

`malloc(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/>.

GNU                      2017-09-15                      MALLOC\_USABLE\_SIZE(3)