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

$ man mktemp.3

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

NAME

    mktemp - make a unique temporary filename

SYNOPSIS

    #include <stdlib.h>

    char *mktemp(char *template);

   Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature_test_macros(7)):

    mktemp():

       Since glibc 2.12:

          (_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500) && ! (_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200112L)

             || /* Glibc since 2.19: */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE

             || /* Glibc <= 2.19: */ _SVID_SOURCE || _BSD_SOURCE

       Before glibc 2.12:

          _BSD_SOURCE || _SVID_SOURCE || _XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500

DESCRIPTION

    Never use this function; see BUGS.

    The mktemp() function generates a unique temporary filename from tem?

    plate. The last six characters of template must be XXXXXX and these

    are replaced with a string that makes the filename unique. Since it

    will be modified, template must not be a string constant, but should be

    declared as a character array.

RETURN VALUE

    The mktemp() function always returns template. If a unique name was

created, the last six bytes of template will have been modified in such

a way that the resulting name is unique (i.e., does not exist already)

If a unique name could not be created, template is made an empty

string, and errno is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

EINVAL The last six characters of template were not XXXXXX.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see at?

tributes(7).

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?Interface ? Attribute   ? Value   ?

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

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CONFORMING TO

4.3BSD, POSIX.1-2001. POSIX.1-2008 removes the specification of mk?

temp().

BUGS

Never use mktemp().   Some implementations follow 4.3BSD and replace

XXXXXX by the current process ID and a single letter, so that at most

26 different names can be returned. Since on the one hand the names

are easy to guess, and on the other hand there is a race between test?

ing whether the name exists and opening the file, every use of mktemp()

is a security risk. The race is avoided by mkstemp(3) and mkdtemp(3).

SEE ALSO

mktemp(1), mkdtemp(3), mkstemp(3), tempnam(3), tmpfile(3), tmpnam(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/.

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