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## ***Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'netlink.3' command***

### ***\$ man netlink.3***

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

#### NAME

netlink - Netlink macros

#### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <asm/types.h>
#include <linux/netlink.h>
int NLMSG_ALIGN(size_t len);
int NLMSG_LENGTH(size_t len);
int NLMSG_SPACE(size_t len);
void *NLMSG_DATA(struct nlmsg_hdr *nlh);
struct nlmsg_hdr *NLMSG_NEXT(struct nlmsg_hdr *nlh, int len);
int NLMSG_OK(struct nlmsg_hdr *nlh, int len);
int NLMSG_PAYLOAD(struct nlmsg_hdr *nlh, int len);
```

#### DESCRIPTION

<linux/netlink.h> defines several standard macros to access or create a netlink datagram. They are similar in spirit to the macros defined in cmsg(3) for auxiliary data. The buffer passed to and from a netlink socket should be accessed using only these macros.

##### NLMSG\_ALIGN()

Round the length of a netlink message up to align it properly.

##### NLMSG\_LENGTH()

Given the payload length, len, this macro returns the aligned length to store in the nlmsg\_len field of the nlmsg\_hdr.

## NLMSG\_SPACE()

Return the number of bytes that a netlink message with payload of len would occupy.

## NLMSG\_DATA()

Return a pointer to the payload associated with the passed nlmsg\_hdr.

## NLMSG\_NEXT()

Get the next nlmsg\_hdr in a multipart message. The caller must check if the current nlmsg\_hdr didn't have the NLMSG\_DONE set? this function doesn't return NULL on end. The len argument is an lvalue containing the remaining length of the message buffer. This macro decrements it by the length of the message header.

## NLMSG\_OK()

Return true if the netlink message is not truncated and is in a form suitable for parsing.

## NLMSG\_PAYLOAD()

Return the length of the payload associated with the nlmsg\_hdr.

## CONFORMING TO

These macros are nonstandard Linux extensions.

## NOTES

It is often better to use netlink via libnetlink than via the low-level kernel interface.

## SEE ALSO

libnetlink(3), netlink(7)

## 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/>.