



Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'readdir.2' command

\$ man readdir.2

READDIR(2) Linux Programmer's Manual READDIR(2)

NAME

readdir - read directory entry

SYNOPSIS

```
int readdir(unsigned int fd, struct old_linux_dirent *dirp,  
            unsigned int count);
```

Note: There is no glibc wrapper for this system call; see NOTES.

DESCRIPTION

This is not the function you are interested in. Look at readdir(3) for the POSIX conforming C library interface. This page documents the bare kernel system call interface, which is superseded by getdents(2).

readdir() reads one old_linux_dirent structure from the directory referred to by the file descriptor fd into the buffer pointed to by dirp.

The argument count is ignored; at most one old_linux_dirent structure is read.

The old_linux_dirent structure is declared (privately in Linux kernel file fs/readdir.c) as follows:

```
struct old_linux_dirent {  
    unsigned long d_ino;   /* inode number */  
    unsigned long d_offset; /* offset to this old_linux_dirent */  
    unsigned short d_namlen; /* length of this d_name */  
    char d_name[1];       /* filename (null-terminated) */  
};
```

`d_ino` is an inode number. `d_offset` is the distance from the start of the directory to this `old_linux_dirent`. `d_reclen` is the size of `d_name`, not counting the terminating null byte ('\0'). `d_name` is a null-terminated filename.

RETURN VALUE

On success, 1 is returned. On end of directory, 0 is returned. On error, -1 is returned, and `errno` is set appropriately.

ERRORS

`EBADF` Invalid file descriptor `fd`.

`EFAULT` Argument points outside the calling process's address space.

`EINVAL` Result buffer is too small.

`ENOENT` No such directory.

`ENOTDIR`

File descriptor does not refer to a directory.

CONFORMING TO

This system call is Linux-specific.

NOTES

`glibc` does not provide a wrapper for this system call; call it using `syscall(2)`. You will need to define the `old_linux_dirent` structure yourself. However, probably you should use `readdir(3)` instead.

This system call does not exist on x86-64.

SEE ALSO

`getdents(2)`, `readdir(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/>.