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

## \$ man swprintf.3

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

## NAME

wprintf, fwprintf, swprintf, vwprintf, vfwprintf, vswprintf - formatted wide-character output conversion

#### **SYNOPSIS**

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The wprintf() family of functions is the wide-character equivalent of the printf(3) family of functions. It performs formatted output of wide characters.

The wprintf() and vwprintf() functions perform wide-character output to stdout. stdout must not be byte oriented; see fwide(3) for more infor? mation.

The fwprintf() and vfwprintf() functions perform wide-character output to stream. stream must not be byte oriented; see fwide(3) for more in? formation.

The swprintf() and vswprintf() functions perform wide-character output to an array of wide characters. The programmer must ensure that there is room for at least maxlen wide characters at wcs.

These functions are like the printf(3), vprintf(3), fprintf(3), vf? printf(3), sprintf(3), vsprintf(3) functions except for the following differences:

- ? The format string is a wide-character string.
- ? The output consists of wide characters, not bytes.
- ? swprintf() and vswprintf() take a maxlen argument, sprintf(3) and vsprintf(3) do not. (snprintf(3) and vsnprintf(3) take a maxlen argument, but these functions do not return -1 upon buf? fer overflow on Linux.)

The treatment of the conversion characters c and s is different:

- c If no I modifier is present, the int argument is converted to a wide character by a call to the btowc(3) function, and the re? sulting wide character is written. If an I modifier is present, the wint t (wide character) argument is written.
- pected to be a pointer to an array of character type (pointer to a string) containing a multibyte character sequence beginning in the initial shift state. Characters from the array are con? verted to wide characters (each by a call to the mbrtowc(3) function with a conversion state starting in the initial state before the first byte). The resulting wide characters are writ? ten up to (but not including) the terminating null wide charac? ter (L'\0'). If a precision is specified, no more wide charac? ters than the number specified are written. Note that the pre?

cision determines the number of wide characters written, not the number of bytes or screen positions. The array must contain a terminating null byte ('\0'), unless a precision is given and it is so small that the number of converted wide characters reaches it before the end of the array is reached. If an I modifier is present: the const wchar\_t \* argument is expected to be a pointer to an array of wide characters. Wide characters from the array are written up to (but not including) a terminating null wide character. If a precision is specified, no more than the number specified are written. The array must contain a ter? minating null wide character, unless a precision is given and it is smaller than or equal to the number of wide characters in the array.

## **RETURN VALUE**

The functions return the number of wide characters written, excluding the terminating null wide character in case of the functions swprintf() and vswprintf(). They return -1 when an error occurs.

## **ATTRIBUTES**

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

?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

?wprintf(), fwprintf(), ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe locale ?

?swprintf(), vwprintf(), ?

?vfwprintf(), vswprintf() ? ?

## **CONFORMING TO**

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C99.

#### **NOTES**

The behavior of wprintf() et al. depends on the LC\_CTYPE category of the current locale.

If the format string contains non-ASCII wide characters, the program

will work correctly only if the LC\_CTYPE category of the current locale at run time is the same as the LC\_CTYPE category of the current locale at compile time. This is because the wchar\_t representation is plat? form- and locale-dependent. (The glibc represents wide characters us? ing their Unicode (ISO-10646) code point, but other platforms don't do this. Also, the use of C99 universal character names of the form \unnnn does not solve this problem.) Therefore, in internationalized programs, the format string should consist of ASCII wide characters only, or should be constructed at run time in an internationalized way (e.g., using gettext(3) or iconv(3), followed by mbstowcs(3)).

#### SEE ALSO

fprintf(3), fputwc(3), fwide(3), printf(3), snprintf(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 2019-03-06 WPRINTF(3)