# Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'clearenv.3'

**$ man clearenv.3**

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

NAME

    clearenv - clear the environment

SYNOPSIS

    #include <stdlib.h>

    int clearenv(void);

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

    clearenv():

       /* Glibc since 2.19: */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE

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

DESCRIPTION

    The  clearenv() function clears the environment of all name-value pairs

    and sets the value of the external variable  environ  to  NULL.   After

    this  call,  new  variables  can  be  added  to  the  environment using

    putenv(3) and setenv(3).

RETURN VALUE

    The clearenv() function returns zero on success, and a nonzero value on

    failure.

## VERSIONS

Available since glibc 2.0.

## ATTRIBUTES

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

tributes(7).

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?Interface  ? Attribute    ? Value           ?

????????????????????????????????????????????????????

?clearenv() ? Thread safety ? MT-Unsafe const:env ?

????????????????????????????????????????????????????

## CONFORMING TO

Various UNIX variants (DG/UX, HP-UX, QNX, ...).  POSIX.9 (bindings  for

FORTRAN77).   POSIX.1-1996 did not accept clearenv() and putenv(3), but

changed its mind and scheduled these functions for some later issue  of

this   standard   (see  ?B.4.6.1).   However,  POSIX.1-2001  adds  only

putenv(3), and rejected clearenv().

## NOTES

On systems where clearenv() is unavailable, the assignment

    environ = NULL;

will probably do.

The clearenv() function may be useful  in  security-conscious  applica?

tions  that want to precisely control the environment that is passed to

programs executed using exec(3). The  application  would  do  this  by

first clearing the environment and then adding select environment vari?

ables.

Note that the main effect of clearenv() is to adjust the value  of  the

pointer  environ(7);  this  function does not erase the contents of the

buffers containing the environment definitions.

The DG/UX and Tru64 man pages write: If environ has  been  modified  by

anything  other than the putenv(3), getenv(3), or clearenv() functions,

then clearenv() will return an error and the process  environment  will

remain unchanged.

## SEE ALSO

getenv(3), putenv(3), setenv(3), unsetenv(3), environ(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/.