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

#### ***\$ man perror.3***

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

#### NAME

perror - print a system error message

#### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdio.h>

void perror(const char *s);

#include <errno.h>

const char * const sys_errlist[];

int sys_nerr;

int errno;     /* Not really declared this way; see errno(3) */
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature\_test\_macros(7)):

```
sys_errlist, sys_nerr:

    From glibc 2.19 to 2.31:
        _DEFAULT_SOURCE

    Glibc 2.19 and earlier:
        _BSD_SOURCE
```

#### DESCRIPTION

The perror() function produces a message on standard error describing

the last error encountered during a call to a system or library function.

First (if s is not NULL and \*s is not a null byte ('\0')), the argument string s is printed, followed by a colon and a blank. Then an error message corresponding to the current value of errno and a new-line.

To be of most use, the argument string should include the name of the function that incurred the error.

The global error list sys\_errlist[], which can be indexed by errno, can be used to obtain the error message without the newline. The largest message number provided in the table is sys\_nerr-1. Be careful when directly accessing this list, because new error values may not have been added to sys\_errlist[]. The use of sys\_errlist[] is nowadays deprecated; use strerror(3) instead.

When a system call fails, it usually returns -1 and sets the variable errno to a value describing what went wrong. (These values can be found in <errno.h>.) Many library functions do likewise. The function perror() serves to translate this error code into human-readable form. Note that errno is undefined after a successful system call or library function call: this call may well change this variable, even though it succeeds, for example because it internally used some other library function that failed. Thus, if a failing call is not immediately followed by a call to perror(), the value of errno should be saved.

## VERSIONS

Since glibc version 2.32, the declarations of sys\_errlist and sys\_nerr are no longer exposed by <stdio.h>.

## ATTRIBUTES

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

??

?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

??

?perror() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe race:stderr ?

??

## CONFORMING TO

perror(), errno: POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C89, C99, 4.3BSD.

The externals `sys_nerr` and `sys_errlist` derive from BSD, but are not specified in POSIX.1.

## NOTES

The externals `sys_nerr` and `sys_errlist` are defined by `glibc`, but in `<stdio.h>`.

## SEE ALSO

`err(3)`, `errno(3)`, `error(3)`, `strerror(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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