

**NAME**

**crypt\_preferred\_method** — get the prefix of the preferred hash method

**LIBRARY**

Crypt Library (libcrypt, -lcrypt)

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <crypt.h>

const char*
crypt_preferred_method(void);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

**crypt\_preferred\_method** is a convenience function to get the prefix of the preferred hash method. If a preferred method is available, it is the same as the one also used by the **crypt\_gensalt** functions, if their given *prefix* parameter is NULL.

**RETURN VALUES**

The string returned equals the prefix of the preferred hash method. If no preferred hash method is available it is NULL. It *is* safe to pass the string returned by **crypt\_preferred\_method** directly to **crypt\_gensalt** without prior string-sanitizing nor NULL-pointer checks.

**FEATURE TEST MACROS**

<crypt.h> will define the macro `CRYPT_PREFERRED_METHOD_AVAILABLE` if **crypt\_preferred\_method** is available in the current version of libcrypt.

**PORTABILITY NOTES**

The function **crypt\_preferred\_method** is not part of any standard. It was added to libcrypt in version 4.4.0.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
<b>crypt_preferred_method</b>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

**SEE ALSO**

`crypt_gensalt(3)`