

NAME

`ctermid` – get controlling terminal name

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
char *ctermid(char *s);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature_test_macros\(7\)](#)):

```
ctermid(): _POSIX_C_SOURCE
```

DESCRIPTION

`ctermid()` returns a string which is the pathname for the current controlling terminal for this process. If *s* is NULL, a static buffer is used, otherwise *s* points to a buffer used to hold the terminal pathname. The symbolic constant `L_ctermid` is the maximum number of characters in the returned pathname.

RETURN VALUE

The pointer to the pathname.

ATTRIBUTES

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

Interface	Attribute	Value
<code>ctermid()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, Svr4.

BUGS

The returned pathname may not uniquely identify the controlling terminal; it may, for example, be `/dev/tty`.

It is not assured that the program can open the terminal.

SEE ALSO

[ttyname\(3\)](#)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.05 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/>.