

**NAME**

getent – get entries from Name Service Switch libraries

**SYNOPSIS**

**getent** [*option*]... *database key*...

**DESCRIPTION**

The **getent** command displays entries from databases supported by the Name Service Switch libraries, which are configured in */etc/nsswitch.conf*. If one or more *key* arguments are provided, then only the entries that match the supplied keys will be displayed. Otherwise, if no *key* is provided, all entries will be displayed (unless the database does not support enumeration).

The *database* may be any of those supported by the GNU C Library, listed below:

- ahosts** When no *key* is provided, use **sethostent(3)**, **gethostent(3)**, and **endhostent(3)** to enumerate the hosts database. This is identical to using **hosts**. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each *key* in succession to **getaddrinfo(3)** with the address family **AF\_UNSPEC**, enumerating each socket address structure returned.
- ahostsv4** Same as **ahosts**, but use the address family **AF\_INET**.
- ahostsv6** Same as **ahosts**, but use the address family **AF\_INET6**. The call to **getaddrinfo(3)** in this case includes the **AI\_V4MAPPED** flag.
- aliases** When no *key* is provided, use **setaliasent(3)**, **getaliasent(3)**, and **endaliasent(3)** to enumerate the aliases database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each *key* in succession to **getaliasbyname(3)** and display the result.
- ethers** When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each *key* in succession to **ether\_aton(3)** and **ether\_hostton(3)** until a result is obtained, and display the result. Enumeration is not supported on **ethers**, so a *key* must be provided.
- group** When no *key* is provided, use **setgrent(3)**, **getgrent(3)**, and **endgrent(3)** to enumerate the group database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each numeric *key* to **getgrgid(3)** and each nonnumeric *key* to **getgrnam(3)** and display the result.
- gshadow** When no *key* is provided, use **setsgent(3)**, **getsgent(3)**, and **endsgent(3)** to enumerate the gshadow database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each *key* in succession to **getsgnam(3)** and display the result.
- hosts** When no *key* is provided, use **sethostent(3)**, **gethostent(3)**, and **endhostent(3)** to enumerate the hosts database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each *key* to **gethostbyaddr(3)** or **gethostbyname2(3)**, depending on whether a call to **inet\_pton(3)** indicates that the *key* is an IPv6 or IPv4 address or not, and display the result.
- initgroups** When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each *key* in succession to **getgrouplist(3)** and display the result. Enumeration is not supported on **initgroups**, so a *key* must be provided.
- netgroup** When one *key* is provided, pass the *key* to **setnetgrent(3)** and, using **getnetgrent(3)** display the resulting string triple (*hostname, username, domainname*). Alternatively, three *keys* may be provided, which are interpreted as the *hostname, username* and *domainname* to match to a netgroup name via **innetgr(3)**. Enumeration is not supported on **netgroup**, so either one or three *keys* must be provided.
- networks** When no *key* is provided, use **setnetent(3)**, **getnetent(3)**, and **endnetent(3)** to enumerate the networks database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each numeric *key* to **getnetbyaddr(3)** and each nonnumeric *key* to **getnetbyname(3)** and display the result.
- passwd** When no *key* is provided, use **setpwent(3)**, **getpwent(3)**, and **endpwent(3)** to enumerate the passwd database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each numeric *key* to **getpwuid(3)** and each nonnumeric *key* to **getpwnam(3)** and display the result.

- protocols** When no *key* is provided, use **setprotoent(3)**, **getprotoent(3)**, and **endprotoent(3)** to enumerate the protocols database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each numeric *key* to **getprotobynumber(3)** and each nonnumeric *key* to **getprotobynname(3)** and display the result.
- rpc** When no *key* is provided, use **setrpcent(3)**, **getrpcent(3)**, and **endrpcent(3)** to enumerate the rpc database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each numeric *key* to **getrpcbynumber(3)** and each nonnumeric *key* to **getrpcbyname(3)** and display the result.
- services** When no *key* is provided, use **setservent(3)**, **getservent(3)**, and **endservent(3)** to enumerate the services database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each numeric *key* to **getservbynumber(3)** and each nonnumeric *key* to **getservbyname(3)** and display the result.
- shadow** When no *key* is provided, use **setspent(3)**, **getspent(3)**, and **endspent(3)** to enumerate the shadow database. When one or more *key* arguments are provided, pass each *key* in succession to **getspnam(3)** and display the result.

## OPTIONS

- s service, --service service**  
Override all databases with the specified service. (Since glibc 2.2.5.)
- s database:service, --service database:service**  
Override only specified databases with the specified service. The option may be used multiple times, but only the last service for each database will be used. (Since glibc 2.4.)
- i, --no-idn**  
Disables IDN encoding in lookups for **ahosts/getaddrinfo(3)** (Since glibc-2.13.)
- , --help**  
Print a usage summary and exit.
- usage**  
Print a short usage summary and exit.
- V, --version**  
Print the version number, license, and disclaimer of warranty for **getent**.

## EXIT STATUS

One of the following exit values can be returned by **getent**:

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>0</b> | Command completed successfully.   |
| <b>1</b> | Missing arguments, or <i>database</i> unknown.                              |
| <b>2</b> | One or more supplied <i>key</i> could not be found in the <i>database</i> . |
| <b>3</b> | Enumeration not supported on this <i>database</i> .                         |

## SEE ALSO

**nsswitch.conf(5)**

## COLOPHON

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