

**NAME**

`getwchar` – read a wide character from standard input

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <wchar.h>
```

```
wint_t getwchar(void);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The `getwchar()` function is the wide-character equivalent of the `getchar(3)` function. It reads a wide character from *stdin* and returns it. If the end of stream is reached, or if *ferror(stdin)* becomes true, it returns **WEOF**. If a wide-character conversion error occurs, it sets *errno* to **EILSEQ** and returns **WEOF**.

For a nonlocking counterpart, see `unlocked_stdio(3)`.

**RETURN VALUE**

The `getwchar()` function returns the next wide-character from standard input, or **WEOF**.

**ATTRIBUTES**

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

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

**CONFORMING TO**

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C99.

**NOTES**

The behavior of `getwchar()` depends on the **LC\_CTYPE** category of the current locale.

It is reasonable to expect that `getwchar()` will actually read a multibyte sequence from standard input and then convert it to a wide character.

**SEE ALSO**

`fgetwc(3)`, `unlocked_stdio(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/>.