

NAME

`isatty` – test whether a file descriptor refers to a terminal

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int isatty(int fd);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `isatty()` function tests whether *fd* is an open file descriptor referring to a terminal.

RETURN VALUE

`isatty()` returns 1 if *fd* is an open file descriptor referring to a terminal; otherwise 0 is returned, and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS**EBADF**

fd is not a valid file descriptor.

ENOTTY

fd refers to a file other than a terminal. On some older kernels, some types of files resulted in the error **EINVAL** in this case (which is a violation of POSIX, which specifies the error **ENOTTY**).

ATTRIBUTES

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

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

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, SVr4, 4.3BSD.

SEE ALSO

[fstat\(2\)](#), [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/>.