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### ***Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'readdir\_r.3'***

**\$ man readdir\_r.3**

READDIR\_R(3)                      Linux Programmer's Manual                      READDIR\_R(3)

#### **NAME**

readdir\_r - read a directory

#### **SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <dirent.h>
```

```
int readdir_r(DIR *dirp, struct dirent *entry, struct dirent **result);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature\_test\_macros(7)):

```
readdir_r():
```

```
  _POSIX_C_SOURCE
```

```
  || /* Glibc versions <= 2.19: */ _BSD_SOURCE || _SVID_SOURCE
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

This function is deprecated; use readdir(3) instead.

The readdir\_r() function was invented as a reentrant version of readdir(3). It reads the next directory entry from the directory stream dirp, and returns it in the caller-allocated buffer pointed to by entry. For details of the dirent structure, see readdir(3).

A pointer to the returned buffer is placed in \*result; if the end of the directory stream was encountered, then NULL is instead returned in \*result.

It is recommended that applications use readdir(3) instead of readdir\_r(). Furthermore, since version 2.24, glibc deprecates readdir\_r(). The reasons are as follows:

- \* On systems where NAME\_MAX is undefined, calling readdir\_r() may be unsafe because the interface does not allow the caller to specify the length of the buffer used for the returned directory entry.
- \* On some systems, readdir\_r() can't read directory entries with very long names. When

the glibc implementation encounters such a name, `readdir_r()` fails with the error `ENAMETOOLONG` after the final directory entry has been read. On some other systems, `readdir_r()` may return a success status, but the returned `d_name` field may not be null terminated or may be truncated.

- \* In the current POSIX.1 specification (POSIX.1-2008), `readdir(3)` is not required to be thread-safe. However, in modern implementations (including the glibc implementation), concurrent calls to `readdir(3)` that specify different directory streams are thread-safe. Therefore, the use of `readdir_r()` is generally unnecessary in multithreaded programs. In cases where multiple threads must read from the same directory stream, using `readdir(3)` with external synchronization is still preferable to the use of `readdir_r()`, for the reasons given in the points above.
- \* It is expected that a future version of POSIX.1 will make `readdir_r()` obsolete, and require that `readdir(3)` be thread-safe when concurrently employed on different directory streams.

## RETURN VALUE

The `readdir_r()` function returns 0 on success. On error, it returns a positive error number (listed under ERRORS). If the end of the directory stream is reached, `readdir_r()` returns 0, and returns NULL in `*result`.

## ERRORS

`EBADF` Invalid directory stream descriptor `dirp`.

`ENAMETOOLONG`

A directory entry whose name was too long to be read was encountered.

## ATTRIBUTES

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

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?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

??

?`readdir_r()` ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe ?

??

## CONFORMING TO

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

## SEE ALSO

`readdir(3)`

## COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.10 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/>.

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