



Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'atexit.3'

C:\>man atexit.3

AEXIT(3) Linux Programmer's Manual AEXIT(3)

NAME

atexit - register a function to be called at normal process termination

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
int atexit(void (*function)(void));
```

DESCRIPTION

The `atexit()` function registers the given function to be called at normal process termination, either via `exit(3)` or via return from the program's `main()`. Functions so registered are called in the reverse order of their registration; no arguments are passed.

The same function may be registered multiple times: it is called once for each registration.

POSIX.1 requires that an implementation allow at least `AEXIT_MAX` (32) such functions to be registered. The actual limit supported by an implementation can be obtained using `sysconf(3)`.

When a child process is created via `fork(2)`, it inherits copies of its parent's registrations. Upon a successful call to one of the `exec(3)` functions, all registrations are removed.

RETURN VALUE

The `atexit()` function returns the value 0 if successful; otherwise it returns a nonzero value.

ATTRIBUTES

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

??

?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

??

?atexit() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe ?

??

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, C89, C99, SVr4, 4.3BSD.

NOTES

Functions registered using atexit() (and on_exit(3)) are not called if a process terminates abnormally because of the delivery of a signal.

If one of the registered functions calls _exit(2), then any remaining functions are not invoked, and the other process termination steps performed by exit(3) are not performed.

POSIX.1 says that the result of calling exit(3) more than once (i.e., calling exit(3) within a function registered using atexit()) is undefined. On some systems (but not Linux), this can result in an infinite recursion; portable programs should not invoke exit(3) inside a function registered using atexit().

The atexit() and on_exit(3) functions register functions on the same list: at normal process termination, the registered functions are invoked in reverse order of their registration by these two functions.

According to POSIX.1, the result is undefined if longjmp(3) is used to terminate execution of one of the functions registered using atexit().

Linux notes

Since glibc 2.2.3, atexit() (and on_exit(3)) can be used within a shared library to establish functions that are called when the shared library is unloaded.

EXAMPLE

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
void
bye(void)
```

```

{
    printf("That was all, folks\n");
}
int
main(void)
{
    long a;
    int i;
    a = sysconf(_SC_ATEXIT_MAX);
    printf("ATEXIT_MAX = %ld\n", a);
    i = atexit(bye);
    if (i != 0) {
        fprintf(stderr, "cannot set exit function\n");
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    }
    exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);
}

```

SEE ALSO

`_exit(2)`, `dlopen(3)`, `exit(3)`, `on_exit(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/>.