
## *Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'rtnetlink.7'*

***C:\>man rtnetlink.7***

RTNETLINK(7) Linux Programmer's Manual RTNETLINK(7)

NAME

rtnetlink - Linux IPv4 routing socket

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <asm/types.h>
#include <linux/if_link.h>
#include <linux/netlink.h>
#include <linux/rtnetlink.h>
#include <sys/socket.h>
rtnetlink_socket = socket(AF_NETLINK, int socket_type, NETLINK_ROUTE);
```

DESCRIPTION

Rtnetlink allows the kernel's routing tables to be read and altered. It is used within the kernel to communicate between various subsystems, though this usage is not documented here, and for communication with user-space programs. Network routes, IP addresses, link parameters, neighbor setups, queueing disciplines, traf? fic classes and packet classifiers may all be controlled through NETLINK_ROUTE sockets. It is based on netlink messages; see netlink(7) for more information.

Routing attributes

Some rtnetlink messages have optional attributes after the initial header:

```
struct rtattr {
    unsigned short rta_len;    /* Length of option */
    unsigned short rta_type;   /* Type of option */
```

```
    /* Data follows */
};
```

These attributes should be manipulated using only the RTA_* macros or libnetlink, see rtnetlink(3).

## Messages

Rtnetlink consists of these message types (in addition to standard netlink messages):

RTM_NEWLINK, RTM_DELLINK, RTM_GETLINK

Create, remove or get information about a specific network interface. These messages contain an ifinfomsg structure followed by a series of rtattr structures.

```
struct ifinfomsg {
    unsigned char  ifi_family; /* AF_UNSPEC */
    unsigned short ifi_type;   /* Device type */
    int            ifi_index;  /* Interface index */
    unsigned int   ifi_flags;  /* Device flags  */
    unsigned int   ifi_change; /* change mask */
};
```

ifi_flags contains the device flags, see netdevice(7); ifi_index is the unique interface index (since Linux 3.7, it is possible to feed a nonzero value with the RTM_NEWLINK message, thus creating a link with the given ifindex); ifi_change is reserved for future use and should be always set to 0xFFFFFFFF.

Routing attributes

| rta_type | value type | description |
|---|---|---|
| IFLA_UNSPEC | - | unspecified. |
| IFLA_ADDRESS | hardware address | interface L2 address |
| IFLA_BROADCAST | hardware address | L2 broadcast address. |
| IFLA_IFNAME | asciiz string | Device name. |
| IFLA_MTU | unsigned int | MTU of the device. |
| IFLA_LINK | int | Link type. |
| IFLA_QDISC | asciiz string | Queueing discipline. |

IFLA_STATS see below Interface Statistics.

The value type for IFLA_STATS is struct rtnl_link_stats (struct net_device_stats in Linux 2.4 and earlier).

RTM_NEWADDR, RTM_DELADDR, RTM_GETADDR

Add, remove or receive information about an IP address associated with an interface. In Linux 2.2, an interface can carry multiple IP addresses, this replaces the alias device concept in 2.0. In Linux 2.2, these messages sup? port IPv4 and IPv6 addresses. They contain an ifaddrmsg structure, option? ally followed by rtattr routing attributes.

```
struct ifaddrmsg {
   unsigned char ifa_family;    /* Address type */
   unsigned char ifa_prefixlen; /* Prefixlength of address */
   unsigned char ifa_flags;     /* Address flags */
   unsigned char ifa_scope;     /* Address scope */
   unsigned int  ifa_index;     /* Interface index */
};
```

ifa_family is the address family type (currently AF_INET or AF_INET6), ifa_prefixlen is the length of the address mask of the address if defined for the family (like for IPv4), ifa_scope is the address scope, ifa_index is the interface index of the interface the address is associated with. ifa_flags is a flag word of IFA_F_SECONDARY for secondary address (old alias interface), IFA_F_PERMANENT for a permanent address set by the user and other undocumented flags.

Attributes

| rta_type | value type | description |
|---|---|---|
| IFA_UNSPEC | - | unspecified. |
| IFA_ADDRESS | raw protocol address | interface address |
| IFA_LOCAL | raw protocol address | local address |
| IFA_LABEL | asciiz string | name of the interface |
| IFA_BROADCAST | raw protocol address | broadcast address. |
| IFA_ANYCAST | raw protocol address | anycast address |
| IFA_CACHEINFO | struct ifa_cacheinfo | Address information. |

RTM_NEWROUTE, RTM_DELROUTE, RTM_GETROUTE

Create, remove or receive information about a network route. These messages contain an rtmsg structure with an optional sequence of rtattr structures following. For RTM_GETROUTE, setting rtm_dst_len and rtm_src_len to 0 means you get all entries for the specified routing table. For the other fields, except rtm_table and rtm_protocol, 0 is the wildcard.

```
struct rtmsg {
    unsigned char rtm_family;   /* Address family of route */
    unsigned char rtm_dst_len;  /* Length of destination */
    unsigned char rtm_src_len;  /* Length of source */
    unsigned char rtm_tos;      /* TOS filter */
    unsigned char rtm_table;    /* Routing table ID */
    unsigned char rtm_protocol; /* Routing protocol; see below */
    unsigned char rtm_scope;    /* See below */
    unsigned char rtm_type;     /* See below */
    unsigned int  rtm_flags;
};
```

rtm_type Route type

??????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????

RTN_UNSPEC unknown route

RTN_UNICAST a gateway or direct route

RTN_LOCAL a local interface route

RTN_BROADCAST a local broadcast route (sent as a broadcast)

RTN_ANYCAST a local broadcast route (sent as a uni? cast)

RTN_MULTICAST a multicast route

RTN_BLACKHOLE a packet dropping route

RTN_UNREACHABLE an unreachable destination

RTN_PROHIBIT a packet rejection route

RTN_THROW continue routing lookup in another table

RTN_NAT a network address translation rule

RTN_XRESOLVE refer to an external resolver (not im?

plemented)

rtm_protocol Route origin.

??????????????????????????????????????????????

RTPROT_UNSPEC unknown

RTPROT_REDIRECT by an ICMP redirect (currently

unused)

RTPROT_KERNEL by the kernel

RTPROT_BOOT during boot

RTPROT_STATIC by the administrator

Values larger than RTPROT_STATIC are not interpreted by the kernel, they are just for user information. They may be used to tag the source of a routing information or to distinguish between multiple routing daemons. See <linux/rtnetlink.h> for the routing daemon identifiers which are already as? signed.

rtm_scope is the distance to the destination:

RT_SCOPE_UNIVERSE global route

RT_SCOPE_SITE interior route in the local

autonomous system

RT_SCOPE_LINK route on this link

RT_SCOPE_HOST route on the local host

RT_SCOPE_NOWHERE destination doesn't exist

The values between RT_SCOPE_UNIVERSE and RT_SCOPE_SITE are available to the user.

The rtm_flags have the following meanings:

RTM_F_NOTIFY if the route changes, notify the user via

rtnetlink

RTM_F_CLONED route is cloned from another route

RTM_F_EQUALIZE a multipath equalizer (not yet implemented)

rtm_table specifies the routing table

RT_TABLE_UNSPEC an unspecified routing table

RT_TABLE_DEFAULT the default table

RT_TABLE_MAIN the main table

RT_TABLE_LOCAL the local table

The user may assign arbitrary values between RT_TABLE_UNSPEC and RT_TA?

BLE_DEFAULT.

Attributes

rta_type value type description

??????????????????????????????????????????????????????????

RTA_UNSPEC - ignored.

RTA_DST protocol address Route destination address.

RTA_SRC protocol address Route source address.

RTA_IIF int Input interface index.

RTA_OIF int Output interface index.

RTA_GATEWAY protocol address The gateway of the route

RTA_PRIORITY int Priority of route.

RTA_PREFSRC

RTA_METRICS int Route metric

RTA_MULTIPATH

RTA_PROTOINFO

RTA_FLOW

RTA_CACHEINFO

Fill these values in!

RTM_NEWNEIGH, RTM_DELNEIGH, RTM_GETNEIGH

Add, remove or receive information about a neighbor table entry (e.g., an

ARP entry). The message contains an ndmsg structure.

```
struct ndmsg {
   unsigned char ndm_family;
   int          ndm_ifindex;  /* Interface index */
   __u16        ndm_state;    /* State */
   __u8         ndm_flags;    /* Flags */
   __u8         ndm_type;
};
struct nda_cacheinfo {
   __u32        ndm_confirmed;
   __u32        ndm_used;
   __u32        ndm_updated;
```

```
    __u32        ndm_refcnt;
};
```

ndm_state is a bit mask of the following states:

NUD_INCOMPLETE  a currently resolving cache entry

NUD_REACHABLE  a confirmed working cache entry

NUD_STALE  an expired cache entry

NUD_DELAY  an entry waiting for a timer

NUD_PROBE  a cache entry that is currently reprobed

NUD_FAILED  an invalid cache entry

NUD_NOARP  a device with no destination cache

NUD_PERMANENT  a static entry

Valid ndm_flags are:

NTF_PROXY  a proxy arp entry

NTF_ROUTER  an IPv6 router

The rtattr struct has the following meanings for the rta_type field:

NDA_UNSPEC  unknown type

NDA_DST  a neighbor cache n/w layer destination address

NDA_LLADDR  a neighbor cache link layer address

NDA_CACHEINFO  cache statistics.

If the rta_type field is NDA_CACHEINFO, then a struct nda_cacheinfo header follows

RTM_NEWRULE, RTM_DELRULE, RTM_GETRULE

Add, delete or retrieve a routing rule. Carries a struct rtmsg

RTM_NEWQDISC, RTM_DELQDISC, RTM_GETQDISC

Add, remove or get a queueing discipline. The message contains a struct tcmsg and may be followed by a series of attributes.

```
struct tcmsg {
    unsigned char    tcm_family;
    int              tcm_ifindex;   /* interface index */
    __u32            tcm_handle;    /* Qdisc handle */
    __u32            tcm_parent;    /* Parent qdisc */
    __u32            tcm_info;
};
```

Attributes

rta_type value type Description

??????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????

TCA_UNSPEC - unspecified

TCA_KIND asciiz string Name of queueing discipline

TCA_OPTIONS byte sequence Qdisc-specific options follow

TCA_STATS struct tc_stats Qdisc statistics.

TCA_XSTATS qdisc-specific Module-specific statistics.

TCA_RATE struct tc_estimator Rate limit.

In addition, various other qdisc-module-specific attributes are allowed.

For more information see the appropriate include files.

RTM_NEWTCLASS, RTM_DELTCLASS, RTM_GETTCLASS

Add, remove or get a traffic class. These messages contain a struct tcmsg as described above.

RTM_NEWTFILTER, RTM_DELTFILTER, RTM_GETTFILTER

Add, remove or receive information about a traffic filter. These messages contain a struct tcmsg as described above.

## VERSIONS

rtnetlink is a new feature of Linux 2.2.

## BUGS

This manual page is incomplete.

## SEE ALSO

cmsg(3), rtnetlink(3), ip(7), netlink(7)

## 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/.