



## ***Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'tmpnam.3'***

**C:\>man tmpnam.3**

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

### NAME

tmpnam, tmpnam\_r - create a name for a temporary file

### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
char *tmpnam(char *s);
```

```
char *tmpnam_r(char *s);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see `feature_test_macros(7)`):

```
tmpnam_r()
```

Since glibc 2.19:

```
  _DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

Up to and including glibc 2.19:

```
  _BSD_SOURCE || _SVID_SOURCE
```

### DESCRIPTION

Note: avoid using these functions; use `mkstemp(3)` or `tmpfile(3)` instead.

The `tmpnam()` function returns a pointer to a string that is a valid filename, and such that a file with this name did not exist at some point in time, so that naive programmers may think it a suitable name for a temporary file. If the argument `s` is NULL, this name is generated in an internal static buffer and may be overwritten by the next call to `tmpnam()`. If `s` is not NULL, the name is copied to the character array (of length at least `L_tmpnam`) pointed to by `s` and the value `s` is returned in case of success.

The created pathname has a directory prefix P\_tmpdir. (Both L\_tmpnam and P\_tmpdir are defined in <stdio.h>, just like the TMP\_MAX mentioned below.)

The tmpnam\_r() function performs the same task as tmpnam(), but returns NULL (to indicate an error) if s is NULL.

#### RETURN VALUE

These functions return a pointer to a unique temporary filename, or NULL if a unique name cannot be generated.

#### ERRORS

No errors are defined.

#### ATTRIBUTES

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

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?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

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?tmpnam() ? Thread safety ? MT-Unsafe race:tmpnam!/s ?

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?tmpnam\_r() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe ?

??

#### CONFORMING TO

tmpnam(): SVr4, 4.3BSD, C89, C99, POSIX.1-2001. POSIX.1-2008 marks tmpnam() as obsolete.

tmpnam\_r() is a nonstandard extension that is also available on a few other systems.

#### NOTES

The tmpnam() function generates a different string each time it is called, up to TMP\_MAX times. If it is called more than TMP\_MAX times, the behavior is implementation defined.

Although these functions generate names that are difficult to guess, it is nevertheless possible that between the time that the pathname is returned and the time that the program opens it, another program might create that pathname using open(2), or create it as a symbolic link. This can lead to security holes. To avoid such possibilities, use the open(2) O\_EXCL flag to open the pathname. Or better yet, use mkstemp(3) or tmpfile(3).

Portable applications that use threads cannot call `tmpnam()` with a `NULL` argument if either `_POSIX_THREADS` or `_POSIX_THREAD_SAFE_FUNCTIONS` is defined.

## BUGS

Never use these functions. Use `mkstemp(3)` or `tmpfile(3)` instead.

## SEE ALSO

`mkstemp(3)`, `mktemp(3)`, `tempnam(3)`, `tmpfile(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/>.

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TMPNAM(3)