



## **Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'EVP\_KEYMGMT-DHX.7oss!' command**

**\$ man EVP\_KEYMGMT-DHX.7oss!**

EVP\_PKEY-DH(7oss!)            OpenSSL            EVP\_PKEY-DH(7oss!)

### NAME

EVP\_PKEY-DH, EVP\_PKEY-DHX, EVP\_KEYMGMT-DH, EVP\_KEYMGMT-DHX - EVP\_PKEY  
DH and DHX keytype and algorithm support

### DESCRIPTION

For DH FFC key agreement, two classes of domain parameters can be used:

"safe" domain parameters that are associated with approved named safe-prime groups, and a class of "FIPS186-type" domain parameters.

FIPS186-type domain parameters should only be used for backward compatibility with existing applications that cannot be upgraded to use the approved safe-prime groups.

See EVP\_PKEY-FFC(7) for more information about FFC keys.

The DH key type uses PKCS#3 format which saves p and g, but not the q value. The DHX key type uses X9.42 format which saves the value of q and this must be used for FIPS186-4. If key validation is required, users should be aware of the nuances associated with FIPS186-4 style parameters as discussed in "DH key validation".

In addition to the common FCC parameters that all FFC keytypes should support (see "FFC parameters" in EVP\_PKEY-FFC(7)) the DHX and DH keytype implementations support the following:

"group" (OSSL\_PKEY\_PARAM\_GROUP\_NAME) <UTF8 string>

Sets or gets a string that associates a DH or DHX named safe prime group with known values for p, q and g.

The following values can be used by the OpenSSL's default and FIPS providers: "ffdhe2048", "ffdhe3072", "ffdhe4096", "ffdhe6144", "ffdhe8192", "modp\_2048", "modp\_3072", "modp\_4096", "modp\_6144", "modp\_8192".

The following additional values can also be used by OpenSSL's default provider: "modp\_1536", "dh\_1024\_160", "dh\_2048\_224", "dh\_2048\_256".

DH/DHX named groups can be easily validated since the parameters are well known. For protocols that only transfer p and g the value of q can also be retrieved.

#### DH and DHX additional parameters

"encoded-pub-key" (OSSL\_PKEY\_PARAM\_ENCODED\_PUBLIC\_KEY) <octet string>

Used for getting and setting the encoding of the DH public key used in a key exchange message for the TLS protocol. See

EVP\_PKEY\_set1\_encoded\_public\_key() and

EVP\_PKEY\_get1\_encoded\_public\_key().

#### DH additional domain parameters

"safeprime-generator" (OSSL\_PKEY\_PARAM\_DH\_GENERATOR) <integer>

Used for DH generation of safe primes using the old safe prime generator code. The default value is 2. It is recommended to use a named safe prime group instead, if domain parameter validation is

required.

Randomly generated safe primes are not allowed by FIPS, so setting this value for the OpenSSL FIPS provider will instead choose a named safe prime group based on the size of p.

#### DH and DHX domain parameter / key generation parameters

In addition to the common FFC key generation parameters that all FFC key types should support (see "FFC key generation parameters" in EVP\_PKEY-FFC(7)) the DH and DHX keytype implementation supports the following:

"type" (OSSL\_PKEY\_PARAM\_FFC\_TYPE) <UTF8 string>

Sets the type of parameter generation. For DH valid values are:

"fips186\_4"

"default"

"fips186\_2"

These are described in "FFC key generation parameters" in EVP\_PKEY-FFC(7)

"group"

This specifies that a named safe prime name will be chosen using the "pbits" type.

"generator"

A safe prime generator. See the "safeprime-generator" type above. This is only valid for DH keys.

"pbits" (OSSL\_PKEY\_PARAM\_FFC\_PBITS) <unsigned integer>

Sets the size (in bits) of the prime 'p'.

For "fips186\_4" this must be 2048. For "fips186\_2" this must be

1024. For "group" this can be any one of 2048, 3072, 4096, 6144 or 8192.

"priv\_len" (OSSL\_PKEY\_PARAM\_DH\_PRIV\_LEN) <integer>

An optional value to set the maximum length of the generated private key. The default value used if this is not set is the maximum value of BN\_num\_bits(q). The minimum value that this can be set to is  $2 * s$ . Where s is the security strength of the key which has values of 112, 128, 152, 176 and 200 for key sizes of 2048, 3072, 4096, 6144 and 8192.

#### DH key validation

For DHX that is not a named group the FIPS186-4 standard specifies that the values used for FFC parameter generation are also required for parameter validation. This means that optional FFC domain parameter values for seed, pcounter and gindex or hindex may need to be stored for validation purposes. For DHX the seed and pcounter can be stored in ASN1 data (but the gindex or hindex cannot be stored). It is recommended to use a named safe prime group instead.

For DH keys, EVP\_PKEY\_param\_check(3) behaves in the following way: The OpenSSL FIPS provider tests if the parameters are either an approved safe prime group OR that the FFC parameters conform to FIPS186-4 as defined in SP800-56Ar3 Assurances of Domain-Parameter Validity. The OpenSSL default provider uses simpler checks that allows there to be no q value for backwards compatibility.

For DH keys, EVP\_PKEY\_param\_check\_quick(3) is equivalent to EVP\_PKEY\_param\_check(3).

For DH keys, EVP\_PKEY\_public\_check(3) conforms to SP800-56Ar3 FFC Full Public-Key Validation.

For DH keys, `EVP_PKEY_public_check_quick(3)` conforms to SP800-56Ar3 FFC Partial Public-Key Validation when the DH key is an approved named safe prime group, otherwise it is the same as `EVP_PKEY_public_check(3)`.

For DH Keys, `EVP_PKEY_private_check(3)` tests that the private key is in the correct range according to SP800-56Ar3. The OpenSSL FIPS provider requires the value of `q` to be set (note that this is set for named safe prime groups). For backwards compatibility the OpenSSL default provider only requires `p` to be set.

For DH keys, `EVP_PKEY_pairwise_check(3)` conforms to SP800-56Ar3 Owner Assurance of Pair-wise Consistency.

## EXAMPLES

An `EVP_PKEY` context can be obtained by calling:

```
EVP_PKEY_CTX *pctx = EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_name(NULL, "DH", NULL);
```

A DH key can be generated with a named safe prime group by calling:

```
int priv_len = 2 * 112;
OSSL_PARAM params[3];
EVP_PKEY *pkey = NULL;
EVP_PKEY_CTX *pctx = EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_name(NULL, "DH", NULL);

params[0] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_utf8_string("group", "ffdhe2048", 0);
/* "priv_len" is optional */
params[1] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_int("priv_len", &priv_len);
params[2] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_end();

EVP_PKEY_keygen_init(pctx);
EVP_PKEY_CTX_set_params(pctx, params);
EVP_PKEY_generate(pctx, &pkey);
```

...

```
EVP_PKEY_free(pkey);
```

```
EVP_PKEY_CTX_free(pctx);
```

DHX domain parameters can be generated according to FIPS186-4 by calling:

```
int gindex = 2;
```

```
unsigned int pbits = 2048;
```

```
unsigned int qbits = 256;
```

```
OSSL_PARAM params[6];
```

```
EVP_PKEY *param_key = NULL;
```

```
EVP_PKEY_CTX *pctx = NULL;
```

```
pctx = EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_name(NULL, "DHX", NULL);
```

```
EVP_PKEY_paramgen_init(pctx);
```

```
params[0] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_uint("pbits", &pbits);
```

```
params[1] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_uint("qbits", &qbits);
```

```
params[2] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_int("gindex", &gindex);
```

```
params[3] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_utf8_string("type", "fips186_4", 0);
```

```
params[4] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_utf8_string("digest", "SHA256", 0);
```

```
params[5] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_end();
```

```
EVP_PKEY_CTX_set_params(pctx, params);
```

```
EVP_PKEY_generate(pctx, &param_key);
```

```
EVP_PKEY_print_params(bio_out, param_key, 0, NULL);
```

...

```
EVP_PKEY_free(param_key);
```

```
EVP_PKEY_CTX_free(pctx);
```

A DH key can be generated using domain parameters by calling:

```

EVP_PKEY *key = NULL;
EVP_PKEY_CTX *gctx = EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_pkey(NULL, param_key, NULL);

EVP_PKEY_keygen_init(gctx);
EVP_PKEY_generate(gctx, &key);
EVP_PKEY_print_private(bio_out, key, 0, NULL);
...
EVP_PKEY_free(key);
EVP_PKEY_CTX_free(gctx);

```

To validate FIPS186-4 DHX domain parameters decoded from PEM or DER data, additional values used during generation may be required to be set into the key.

EVP\_PKEY\_todata(), OSSL\_PARAM\_merge(), and EVP\_PKEY\_fromdata() are useful to add these parameters to the original key or domain parameters before the actual validation. In production code the return values should be checked.

```

EVP_PKEY *received_domp = ...; /* parameters received and decoded */
unsigned char *seed = ...; /* and additional parameters received */
size_t seedlen = ...; /* by other means, required */
int gindex = ...; /* for the validation */
int pcounter = ...;
int hindex = ...;
OSSL_PARAM extra_params[4];
OSSL_PARAM *domain_params = NULL;
OSSL_PARAM *merged_params = NULL;
EVP_PKEY_CTX *ctx = NULL, *validate_ctx = NULL;
EVP_PKEY *complete_domp = NULL;

```

```

EVP_PKEY_todata(received_domp, OSSL_KEYMGMT_SELECT_DOMAIN_PARAMETERS,

```

```

        &domain_params);

extra_params[0] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_octet_string("seed", seed, seedlen);

/*
 * NOTE: For unverifiable g use "hindex" instead of "gindex"
 * extra_params[1] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_int("hindex", &hindex);
 */

extra_params[1] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_int("gindex", &gindex);
extra_params[2] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_int("pcounter", &pcounter);
extra_params[3] = OSSL_PARAM_construct_end();
merged_params = OSSL_PARAM_merge(domain_params, extra_params);

ctx = EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_name(NULL, "DHX", NULL);
EVP_PKEY_fromdata_init(ctx);
EVP_PKEY_fromdata(ctx, &complete_domp, OSSL_KEYMGMT_SELECT_ALL,
                  merged_params);

validate_ctx = EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_pkey(NULL, complete_domp, NULL);
if (EVP_PKEY_param_check(validate_ctx) > 0)
    /* validation_passed(); */
else
    /* validation_failed(); */

OSSL_PARAM_free(domain_params);
OSSL_PARAM_free(merged_params);
EVP_PKEY_CTX_free(ctx);
EVP_PKEY_CTX_free(validate_ctx);
EVP_PKEY_free(complete_domp);

```

#### CONFORMING TO

RFC 7919 (TLS ffdhe named safe prime groups)  
RFC 3526 (IKE modp named safe prime groups)  
RFC 5114 (Additional DH named groups for dh\_1024\_160", "dh\_2048\_224"  
and "dh\_2048\_256").

The following sections of SP800-56Ar3:

5.5.1.1 FFC Domain Parameter Selection/Generation

Appendix D: FFC Safe-prime Groups

The following sections of FIPS186-4:

A.1.1.2 Generation of Probable Primes  $p$  and  $q$  Using an Approved Hash Function.

A.2.3 Generation of canonical generator  $g$ .

A.2.1 Unverifiable Generation of the Generator  $g$ .

SEE ALSO

EVP\_PKEY-FFC(7), EVP\_KEYEXCH-DH(7) EVP\_PKEY(3), provider-keymgmt(7),  
EVP\_KEYMGMT(3), OSSL\_PROVIDER-default(7), OSSL\_PROVIDER-FIPS(7)

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3.0.7                      2023-07-13                      EVP\_PKEY-DH(7oss)