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# Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'epoll\_create.2' command

## \$ man epoll\_create.2

EPOLL\_CREATE(2)

Linux Programmer's Manual

EPOLL\_CREATE(2)

NAME

epoll\_create, epoll\_create1 - open an epoll file descriptor

#### **SYNOPSIS**

#include <sys/epoll.h>

int epoll\_create(int size);

int epoll\_create1(int flags);

### **DESCRIPTION**

epoll\_create() creates a new epoll(7) instance. Since Linux 2.6.8, the size argument is ignored, but must be greater than zero; see NOTES. epoll\_create() returns a file descriptor referring to the new epoll in? stance. This file descriptor is used for all the subsequent calls to the epoll interface. When no longer required, the file descriptor re? turned by epoll\_create() should be closed by using close(2). When all file descriptors referring to an epoll instance have been closed, the kernel destroys the instance and releases the associated resources for reuse.

## epoll\_create1()

If flags is 0, then, other than the fact that the obsolete size argu?

ment is dropped, epoll\_create1() is the same as epoll\_create(). The following value can be included in flags to obtain different behavior:

**EPOLL\_CLOEXEC** 

tor. See the description of the O\_CLOEXEC flag in open(2) for reasons why this may be useful.

#### RETURN VALUE

On success, these system calls return a file descriptor (a nonnegative integer). On error, -1 is returned, and errno is set to indicate the error.

### **ERRORS**

EINVAL size is not positive.

EINVAL (epoll\_create1()) Invalid value specified in flags.

EMFILE The per-user limit on the number of epoll instances imposed by /proc/sys/fs/epoll/max\_user\_instances was encountered. See epoll(7) for further details.

EMFILE The per-process limit on the number of open file descriptors has been reached.

ENFILE The system-wide limit on the total number of open files has been reached.

ENOMEM There was insufficient memory to create the kernel object.

#### **VERSIONS**

epoll\_create() was added to the kernel in version 2.6. Library support is provided in glibc starting with version 2.3.2.

epoll\_create1() was added to the kernel in version 2.6.27. Library support is provided in glibc starting with version 2.9.

### **CONFORMING TO**

epoll\_create() is Linux-specific.

### **NOTES**

In the initial epoll\_create() implementation, the size argument in? formed the kernel of the number of file descriptors that the caller ex? pected to add to the epoll instance. The kernel used this information as a hint for the amount of space to initially allocate in internal data structures describing events. (If necessary, the kernel would al? locate more space if the caller's usage exceeded the hint given in size.) Nowadays, this hint is no longer required (the kernel dynami? cally sizes the required data structures without needing the hint), but

size must still be greater than zero, in order to ensure backward com? patibility when new epoll applications are run on older kernels.

# SEE ALSO

close(2), epoll\_ctl(2), epoll\_wait(2), epoll(7)

# COLOPHON

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