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Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'getsubopt.3p' command

\$ man getsubopt.3p

GETSUBOPT(3P) POSIX Programmer's Manual GETSUBOPT(3P)

PROLOG

This manual page is part of the POSIX Programmer's Manual. The Linux implementation of this interface may differ (consult the corresponding Linux manual page for details of Linux behavior), or the interface may not be implemented on Linux.

NAME

getsubopt ? parse suboption arguments from a string

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>

int getsubopt(char **optionp, char * const *keylistp, char **valuep);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `getsubopt()` function shall parse suboption arguments in a flag argument. Such options often result from the use of `getopt()`.

The `getsubopt()` argument `optionp` is a pointer to a pointer to the option argument string. The suboption arguments shall be separated by `<comma>` characters and each may consist of either a single token, or a token-value pair separated by an `<equals-sign>`.

The `keylistp` argument shall be a pointer to a vector of strings. The end of the vector is identified by a null pointer. Each entry in the vector is one of the possible tokens that might be found in `*optionp`.

Since `<comma>` characters delimit suboption arguments in `optionp`, they should not appear in any of the strings pointed to by `keylistp`. Simi?

larly, because an `<equals-sign>` separates a token from its value, the application should not include an `<equals-sign>` in any of the strings pointed to by `keylistp`. The `getsubopt()` function shall not modify the `keylistp` vector.

The `valuep` argument is the address of a value string pointer.

If a `<comma>` appears in `optionp`, it shall be interpreted as a suboption separator. After `<comma>` characters have been processed, if there are one or more `<equals-sign>` characters in a suboption string, the first `<equals-sign>` in any suboption string shall be interpreted as a separator between a token and a value. Subsequent `<equals-sign>` characters in a suboption string shall be interpreted as part of the value.

If the string at `*optionp` contains only one suboption argument (equivalently, no `<comma>` characters), `getsubopt()` shall update `*optionp` to point to the null character at the end of the string. Otherwise, it shall isolate the suboption argument by replacing the `<comma>` separator with a null character, and shall update `*optionp` to point to the start of the next suboption argument. If the suboption argument has an associated value (equivalently, contains an `<equals-sign>`), `getsubopt()` shall update `*valuep` to point to the value's first character. Otherwise, it shall set `*valuep` to a null pointer. The calling application may use this information to determine whether the presence or absence of a value for the suboption is an error.

Additionally, when `getsubopt()` fails to match the suboption argument with a token in the `keylistp` array, the calling application should decide if this is an error, or if the unrecognized option should be processed in another way.

RETURN VALUE

The `getsubopt()` function shall return the index of the matched token string, or -1 if no token strings were matched.

ERRORS

No errors are defined.

The following sections are informative.

EXAMPLES

Parsing Suboptions

The following example uses the `getsubopt()` function to parse a value argument in the `optarg` external variable returned by a call to `getopt()`.

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

int do_all;

const char *type;

int read_size;

int write_size;

int read_only;

enum
{
    RO_OPTION = 0,
    RW_OPTION,
    READ_SIZE_OPTION,
    WRITE_SIZE_OPTION
};

const char *mount_opts[] =
{
    [RO_OPTION] = "ro",
    [RW_OPTION] = "rw",
    [READ_SIZE_OPTION] = "rsize",
    [WRITE_SIZE_OPTION] = "wsize",
    NULL
};

int
main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    char *subopts, *value;

    int opt;

    while ((opt = getopt(argc, argv, "at:o:")) != -1)
```

```

switch(opt)
{
case 'a':
    do_all = 1;
    break;
case 't':
    type = optarg;
    break;
case 'o':
    subopts = optarg;
    while (*subopts != ' ')
    {
        char *saved = subopts;
        switch(getsubopt(&subopts, (char **)mount_opts,
            &value))
        {
        case RO_OPTION:
            read_only = 1;
            break;
        case RW_OPTION:
            read_only = 0;
            break;
        case READ_SIZE_OPTION:
            if (value == NULL)
                abort();
            read_size = atoi(value);
            break;
        case WRITE_SIZE_OPTION:
            if (value == NULL)
                abort();
            write_size = atoi(value);
            break;
        default:

```

```

        /* Unknown suboption. */
        printf("Unknown suboption `%s`\n", saved);
        abort();
    }
}
break;
default:
    abort();
}
/* Do the real work. */
return 0;
}

```

If the above example is invoked with:

```
program -o ro,rsiz=512
```

then after option parsing, the variable `do_all` will be 0, `type` will be a null pointer, `read_size` will be 512, `write_size` will be 0, and `read_only` will be 1. If it is invoked with:

```
program -o oops
```

it will print:

```
"Unknown suboption `oops"
```

before aborting.

APPLICATION USAGE

The value of `*valuep` when `getsubopt()` returns -1 is unspecified. Historical implementations provide various incompatible extensions to allow an application to access the suboption text that was not found in the `keylistp` array.

RATIONALE

The `keylistp` argument of `getsubopt()` is typed as `char * const *` to match historical practice. However, the standard is clear that implementations will not modify either the array or the strings contained in the array, as if the argument had been typed `const char * const *`.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

None.

SEE ALSO

`getopt()`

The Base Definitions volume of POSIX.1-2017, `<stdlib.h>`

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