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

\$ man listen.3p

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

listen ? listen for socket connections and limit the queue of incoming connections

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/socket.h>

int listen(int socket, int backlog);
```

DESCRIPTION

The listen() function shall mark a connection-mode socket, specified by the socket argument, as accepting connections.

The backlog argument provides a hint to the implementation which the implementation shall use to limit the number of outstanding connections in the socket's listen queue. Implementations may impose a limit on backlog and silently reduce the specified value. Normally, a larger backlog argument value shall result in a larger or equal length of the listen queue. Implementations shall support values of backlog up to SO? MAXCONN, defined in <sys/socket.h>.

The implementation may include incomplete connections in its listen

queue. The limits on the number of incomplete connections and completed connections queued may be different.

The implementation may have an upper limit on the length of the listen queue?either global or per accepting socket. If backlog exceeds this limit, the length of the listen queue is set to the limit.

If listen() is called with a backlog argument value that is less than 0, the function behaves as if it had been called with a backlog argument value of 0.

A backlog argument of 0 may allow the socket to accept connections, in which case the length of the listen queue may be set to an implementation-defined minimum value.

The socket in use may require the process to have appropriate privileges to use the listen() function.

RETURN VALUE

Upon successful completions, listen() shall return 0; otherwise, -1 shall be returned and errno set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

The listen() function shall fail if:

EBADF The socket argument is not a valid file descriptor.

EDESTADDRREQ

The socket is not bound to a local address, and the protocol does not support listening on an unbound socket.

EINVAL The socket is already connected.

ENOTSOCK

The socket argument does not refer to a socket.

EOPNOTSUPP

The socket protocol does not support listen().

The listen() function may fail if:

EACCES The calling process does not have appropriate privileges.

EINVAL The socket has been shut down.

ENOBUFS

Insufficient resources are available in the system to complete the call.

The following sections are informative.

EXAMPLES

None.

APPLICATION USAGE

None.

RATIONALE

None.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

None.

SEE ALSO

`accept()`, `connect()`, `socket()`

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

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LISTEN(3P)