



## ***Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'mbsrtowcs.3p' command***

**\$ man mbsrtowcs.3p**

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

mbsnrtowcs, mbsrtowcs ? convert a character string to a wide-character string (restartable)

### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <wchar.h>

size_t mbsnrtowcs(wchar_t *restrict dst, const char **restrict src,
                 size_t nmc, size_t len, mbstate_t *restrict ps);

size_t mbsrtowcs(wchar_t *restrict dst, const char **restrict src,
                size_t len, mbstate_t *restrict ps);
```

### DESCRIPTION

For `mbsrtowcs()`: The functionality described on this reference page is aligned with the ISO C standard. Any conflict between the requirements described here and the ISO C standard is unintentional. This volume of POSIX.1?2017 defers to the ISO C standard.

The `mbsrtowcs()` function shall convert a sequence of characters, beginning in the conversion state described by the object pointed to by `ps`, from the array indirectly pointed to by `src` into a sequence of corre?

responding wide characters. If `dst` is not a null pointer, the converted characters shall be stored into the array pointed to by `dst`. Conversion continues up to and including a terminating null character, which shall also be stored. Conversion shall stop early in either of the following cases:

- \* A sequence of bytes is encountered that does not form a valid character.
- \* `len` codes have been stored into the array pointed to by `dst` (and `dst` is not a null pointer).

Each conversion shall take place as if by a call to the `mbrtowc()` function.

If `dst` is not a null pointer, the pointer object pointed to by `src` shall be assigned either a null pointer (if conversion stopped due to reaching a terminating null character) or the address just past the last character converted (if any). If conversion stopped due to reaching a terminating null character, and if `dst` is not a null pointer, the resulting state described shall be the initial conversion state.

If `ps` is a null pointer, the `mbsrtowcs()` function shall use its own internal `mbstate_t` object, which is initialized at program start-up to the initial conversion state. Otherwise, the `mbstate_t` object pointed to by `ps` shall be used to completely describe the current conversion state of the associated character sequence.

The `mbsnrtowcs()` function shall be equivalent to the `mbsrtowcs()` function, except that the conversion of characters indirectly pointed to by `src` is limited to at most `nmc` bytes (the size of the input buffer), and under conditions where `mbsrtowcs()` would assign the address just past the last character converted (if any) to the pointer object pointed to by `src`, `mbsnrtowcs()` shall instead assign the address just past the last byte processed (if any) to that pointer object. If the input buffer ends with an incomplete character, it is unspecified whether conversion stops at the end of the previous character (if any), or at the end of the input buffer. In the latter case, a subsequent call to `mbsnrtowcs()` with an input buffer that starts with the remainder of the

incomplete character shall correctly complete the conversion of that character.

The behavior of these functions shall be affected by the LC\_CTYPE category of the current locale.

The implementation shall behave as if no function defined in this volume of POSIX.1?2017 calls these functions.

The `mbsnrtowcs()` and `mbsrtowcs()` functions need not be thread-safe if called with a NULL `ps` argument.

The `mbsrtowcs()` function shall not change the setting of `errno` if successful.

## RETURN VALUE

If the input conversion encounters a sequence of bytes that do not form a valid character, an encoding error occurs. In this case, these functions shall store the value of the macro `[EILSEQ]` in `errno` and shall return `(size_t)-1`; the conversion state is undefined. Otherwise, these functions shall return the number of characters successfully converted, not including the terminating null (if any).

## ERRORS

These functions shall fail if:

**EILSEQ** An invalid character sequence is detected. In the POSIX locale an `[EILSEQ]` error cannot occur since all byte values are valid characters.

These functions may fail if:

**EINVAL** `ps` points to an object that contains an invalid conversion state.

The following sections are informative.

## EXAMPLES

None.

## APPLICATION USAGE

None.

## RATIONALE

None.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

A future version may require that when the input buffer ends with an incomplete character, conversion stops at the end of the input buffer.

#### SEE ALSO

`iconv()`, `mbrtowc()`, `mbsinit()`

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

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MBSRTOWCS(3P)