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

***\$ man mbstowcs.3p***

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

mbstowcs ? convert a character string to a wide-character string

### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>

size_t mbstowcs(wchar_t *restrict pwcs, const char *restrict s,
                size_t n);
```

### DESCRIPTION

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 mbstowcs() function shall convert a sequence of characters that begins in the initial shift state from the array pointed to by s into a sequence of corresponding wide-character codes and shall store not more than n wide-character codes into the array pointed to by pwcs. No characters that follow a null byte (which is converted into a wide-character code with value 0) shall be examined or converted. Each char?

acter shall be converted as if by a call to `mbtowc()`, except that the shift state of `mbtowc()` is not affected.

No more than `n` elements shall be modified in the array pointed to by `pwcs`. If copying takes place between objects that overlap, the behavior is undefined.

The behavior of this function shall be affected by the `LC_CTYPE` category of the current locale. If `pwcs` is a null pointer, `mbstowcs()` shall return the length required to convert the entire array regardless of the value of `n`, but no values are stored.

## RETURN VALUE

If an invalid character is encountered, `mbstowcs()` shall return `(size_t)-1` and shall set `errno` to indicate the error.

Otherwise, `mbstowcs()` shall return the number of the array elements modified (or required if `pwcs` is null), not including a terminating 0 code, if any. The array shall not be zero-terminated if the value returned is `n`.

## ERRORS

The `mbstowcs()` function 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.

The following sections are informative.

## EXAMPLES

None.

## APPLICATION USAGE

None.

## RATIONALE

None.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

None.

## SEE ALSO

`mblen()`, `mbtowc()`, `wctomb()`, `wcstombs()`

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

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