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

$ man setpwent.3

```
GETPWENT(3)              Linux Programmer's Manual              GETPWENT(3)

NAME

       getpwent, setpwent, endpwent - get password file entry

SYNOPSIS

       #include <sys/types.h>

       #include <pwd.h>

       struct passwd *getpwent(void);

       void setpwent(void);

       void endpwent(void);

   Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature_test_macros(7)):

       getpwent(), setpwent(), endpwent():

           _XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500

               || /* Glibc since 2.19: */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE

               || /* Glibc versions <= 2.19: */ _BSD_SOURCE || _SVID_SOURCE

DESCRIPTION

       The getpwent() function returns a pointer to a structure containing the

       broken-out fields of a record from the password database (e.g., the lo?

       cal  password  file  /etc/passwd, NIS, and LDAP).  The first time getp?

       went() is called, it returns the first entry;  thereafter,  it  returns

       successive entries.

       The  setpwent() function rewinds to the beginning of the password data?

       base.

       The endpwent() function is used to close the  password  database  after
```

all processing has been performed.

The passwd structure is defined in <pwd.h> as follows:

```
struct passwd {
    char   *pw_name;       /* username */
    char   *pw_passwd;     /* user password */
    uid_t   pw_uid;        /* user ID */
    gid_t   pw_gid;        /* group ID */
    char   *pw_gecos;      /* user information */
    char   *pw_dir;        /* home directory */
    char   *pw_shell;      /* shell program */
};
```

For more information about the fields of this structure, see passwd(5).

RETURN VALUE

The getpwent() function returns a pointer to a passwd structure, or NULL if there are no more entries or an error occurred. If an error occurs, errno is set appropriately. If one wants to check errno after the call, it should be set to zero before the call.

The return value may point to a static area, and may be overwritten by subsequent calls to getpwent(), getpwnam(3), or getpwuid(3). (Do not pass the returned pointer to free(3).)

ERRORS

EINTR A signal was caught; see signal(7).

EIO I/O error.

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 Insufficient memory to allocate passwd structure.

ERANGE Insufficient buffer space supplied.

FILES

/etc/passwd

local password database file

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see attributes(7).

Interface	Attribute	Value
getpwent()	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe race:pwent race:pwentbuf locale
setpwent(), endpwent()	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe race:pwent locale

In the above table, pwent in race:pwent signifies that if any of the functions setpwent(), getpwent(), or endpwent() are used in parallel in different threads of a program, then data races could occur.

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, SVr4, 4.3BSD. The pw_gecos field is not specified in POSIX, but is present on most implementations.

SEE ALSO

fgetpwent(3), getpw(3), getpwent_r(3), getpwnam(3), getpwuid(3), putpwent(3), passwd(5)

COLOPHON

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