



### ***Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'error.3'***

**\$ man error.3**

ERROR(3)                      Linux Programmer's Manual                      ERROR(3)

#### NAME

error, error\_at\_line, error\_message\_count, error\_one\_per\_line, error\_print\_progname - glibc error reporting functions

#### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <error.h>

void error(int status, int errnum, const char *format, ...);
void error_at_line(int status, int errnum, const char *filename,
                  unsigned int linenum, const char *format, ...);
extern unsigned int error_message_count;
extern int error_one_per_line;
extern void (*error_print_progname) (void);
```

#### DESCRIPTION

error() is a general error-reporting function. It flushes stdout, and then outputs to stderr the program name, a colon and a space, the message specified by the printf(3)-style format string format, and, if errnum is nonzero, a second colon and a space followed by the string given by strerror(errnum). Any arguments required for format should

follow format in the argument list. The output is terminated by a new line character.

The program name printed by `error()` is the value of the global variable `program_invocation_name`(3). `program_invocation_name` initially has the same value as `main()`'s `argv[0]`. The value of this variable can be modified to change the output of `error()`.

If `status` has a nonzero value, then `error()` calls `exit(3)` to terminate the program using the given value as the exit status.

The `error_at_line()` function is exactly the same as `error()`, except for the addition of the arguments `filename` and `linenum`. The output produced is as for `error()`, except that after the program name are written: a colon, the value of `filename`, a colon, and the value of `linenum`.

The preprocessor values `__LINE__` and `__FILE__` may be useful when calling `error_at_line()`, but other values can also be used. For example, these arguments could refer to a location in an input file.

If the global variable `error_one_per_line` is set nonzero, a sequence of `error_at_line()` calls with the same value of `filename` and `linenum` will result in only one message (the first) being output.

The global variable `error_message_count` counts the number of messages that have been output by `error()` and `error_at_line()`.

If the global variable `error_print_progname` is assigned the address of a function (i.e., is not NULL), then that function is called instead of prefixing the message with the program name and colon. The function should print a suitable string to `stderr`.

## ATTRIBUTES

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

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Interface	Attribute	Value	
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<code>error()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Safe locale	
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<code>error_at_line()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Unsafe race: <code>error_at_line/er</code>	
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? ? ?ror\_one\_per\_line locale ?  
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The internal error\_one\_per\_line variable is accessed (without any form of synchronization, but since it's an int used once, it should be safe enough) and, if error\_one\_per\_line is set nonzero, the internal static variables (not exposed to users) used to hold the last printed filename and line number are accessed and modified without synchronization; the update is not atomic and it occurs before disabling cancellation, so it can be interrupted only after one of the two variables is modified. After that, error\_at\_line() is very much like error().

CONFORMING TO

These functions and variables are GNU extensions, and should not be used in programs intended to be portable.

SEE ALSO

err(3), errno(3), exit(3), perror(3), program\_invocation\_name(3), str? error(3)

COLOPHON

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