



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'bindtextdomain.3'

\$ man bindtextdomain.3

BINDTEXTDOMAIN(3)

Library Functions Manual

BINDTEXTDOMAIN(3)

NAME

bindtextdomain - set directory containing message catalogs

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <libintl.h>
```

```
char * bindtextdomain (const char * domainname, const char * dirname);
```

DESCRIPTION

The bindtextdomain function sets the base directory of the hierarchy containing message catalogs for a given message domain.

A message domain is a set of translatable msgid messages. Usually, every software package has its own message domain. The need for calling bindtextdomain arises because packages are not always installed with the same prefix as the <libintl.h> header and the libc/libintl libraries.

Message catalogs will be expected at the pathnames dirname/locale/category/domainname.mo, where locale is a locale name and category is a locale facet such as LC_MESSAGES.

domainname must be a non-empty string.

If `dirname` is not `NULL`, the base directory for message catalogs belonging to domain `domain`?
`name` is set to `dirname`. The function makes copies of the argument strings as needed. If the
program wishes to call the `chdir` function, it is important that `dirname` be an absolute path?
`name`; otherwise it cannot be guaranteed that the message catalogs will be found.

If `dirname` is `NULL`, the function returns the previously set base directory for domain `do?`
`mainname`.

RETURN VALUE

If successful, the `bindtextdomain` function returns the current base directory for domain `do?`
`mainname`, after possibly changing it. The resulting string is valid until the next `bind?`
`textdomain` call for the same `domainname` and must not be modified or freed. If a memory allo?
cation failure occurs, it sets `errno` to `ENOMEM` and returns `NULL`.

ERRORS

The following error can occur, among others:

`ENOMEM` Not enough memory available.

BUGS

The return type ought to be `const char *`, but is `char *` to avoid warnings in C code `predat?`
ing ANSI C.

SEE ALSO

`gettext(3)`, `dgettext(3)`, `dcgettext(3)`, `ngettext(3)`, `dngettext(3)`, `dcngettext(3)`, `textdo?`
`main(3)`, `realpath(3)`