



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

\$ man fcvt.3

ecvt(3) Library Functions Manual ecvt(3)

NAME

ecvt, fcvt - convert a floating-point number to a string

LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
[[deprecated]] char *ecvt(double number, int ndigits,  
                           int *restrict decpt, int *restrict sign);
```

```
[[deprecated]] char *fcvt(double number, int ndigits,  
                           int *restrict decpt, int *restrict sign);
```

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

ecvt(), fcvt():

Since glibc 2.17

```
(_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500 && !(_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200809L))
```

```
|| /* glibc >= 2.20 */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

```
|| /* glibc <= 2.19 */ _SVID_SOURCE
```

glibc 2.12 to glibc 2.16:

```
(_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500 && !(_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200112L))
```

```
|| _SVID_SOURCE
```

Before glibc 2.12:

```
_SVID_SOURCE || _XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500
```

DESCRIPTION

The `ecvt()` function converts `number` to a null-terminated string of `ndigits` digits (where `ndigits` is reduced to a system-specific limit determined by the precision of a double), and returns a pointer to the string. The high-order digit is nonzero, unless `number` is zero. The low order digit is rounded. The string itself does not contain a decimal point; however, the position of the decimal point relative to the start of the string is stored in `*decpt`. A negative value for `*decpt` means that the decimal point is to the left of the start of the string. If the sign of `number` is negative, `*sign` is set to a nonzero value, otherwise it is set to 0. If `number` is zero, it is unspecified whether `*decpt` is 0 or 1. The `fcvt()` function is identical to `ecvt()`, except that `ndigits` specifies the number of digits after the decimal point.

RETURN VALUE

Both the `ecvt()` and `fcvt()` functions return a pointer to a static string containing the ASCII representation of `number`. The static string is overwritten by each call to `ecvt()` or `fcvt()`.

ATTRIBUTES

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

??			
? Interface	? Attribute	? Value	?
??			
? <code>ecvt()</code>	? Thread safety	? MT-Unsafe race: <code>ecvt</code>	?
??			
? <code>fcvt()</code>	? Thread safety	? MT-Unsafe race: <code>fcvt</code>	?
??			

STANDARDS

None.

HISTORY

SVr2; marked as LEGACY in POSIX.1-2001. POSIX.1-2008 removes the specifications of `ecvt()` and `fcvt()`, recommending the use of `sprintf(3)` instead (though `snprintf(3)` may be preferable).

NOTES

Not all locales use a point as the radix character ("decimal point").

SEE ALSO

`ecvt_r(3)`, `gcvt(3)`, `qecvt(3)`, `setlocale(3)`, `sprintf(3)`

