



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'inotify_init.2'

\$ man inotify_init.2

inotify_init(2) System Calls Manual inotify_init(2)

NAME

inotify_init, inotify_init1 - initialize an inotify instance

LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/inotify.h>
```

```
int inotify_init(void);
```

```
int inotify_init1(int flags);
```

DESCRIPTION

For an overview of the inotify API, see inotify(7).

inotify_init() initializes a new inotify instance and returns a file descriptor associated with a new inotify event queue.

If flags is 0, then inotify_init1() is the same as inotify_init(). The following values can be bitwise ORed in flags to obtain different behavior:

IN_NONBLOCK

Set the O_NONBLOCK file status flag on the open file description (see open(2)) referred to by the new file descriptor. Using this flag saves extra calls to fcntl(2) to achieve the same result.

IN_CLOEXEC

Set the close-on-exec (FD_CLOEXEC) flag on the new file descriptor. See the description of the O_CLOEXEC flag in open(2) for reasons why this may be useful.

RETURN VALUE

On success, these system calls return a new file descriptor. On error, -1 is returned, and `errno` is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

`EINVAL` (`inotify_init1()`) An invalid value was specified in flags.

`EMFILE` The user limit on the total number of `inotify` instances has been reached.

`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 kernel memory is available.

STANDARDS

Linux.

HISTORY

`inotify_init()`

Linux 2.6.13, glibc 2.4.

`inotify_init1()`

Linux 2.6.27, glibc 2.9.

SEE ALSO

`inotify_add_watch(2)`, `inotify_rm_watch(2)`, `inotify(7)`

Linux man-pages 6.17

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`inotify_init(2)`