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

\$ man isatty.3

isatty(3)

Library Functions Manual

isatty(3)

NAME _____

isatty - test whether a file descriptor refers to a terminal

LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int isatty(int fd);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `isatty()` function tests whether `fd` is an open file descriptor referring to a terminal.

RETURN VALUE

isatty() returns 1 if fd is an open file descriptor referring to a terminal; otherwise 0 is returned, and errno is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

EBADF fd is not a valid file descriptor.

ENOTTY fd refers to a file other than a terminal. On some older kernels, some types of files resulted in the error EINVAL in this case (which is a violation of POSIX, which specifies the error ENOTTY).

ATTRIBUTES

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

[illegible]

?	Interface	?	Attribute	?	Value	?
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[illegible]

? isatty()

? Thread safety ? MT-Safe ?

[illegible]

STANDARDS

POSIX.1-2008.

HISTORY

POSIX.1-2001, SVr4, 4.3BSD.

SEE ALSO

```
fstat(2), ttyname(3)
```

Linux man-pages 6.17

2025-05-17

```
isatty(3)
```