



### ***Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'list.3'***

***\$ man list.3***

LIST(3) Library Functions Manual LIST(3)

#### NAME

LIST\_EMPTY, LIST\_ENTRY, LIST\_FIRST, LIST\_FOREACH, LIST\_HEAD, LIST\_HEAD\_INITIALIZER, LIST\_INIT, LIST\_INSERT\_AFTER, LIST\_INSERT\_BEFORE, LIST\_INSERT\_HEAD, LIST\_NEXT, LIST\_REMOVE - implementation of a doubly linked list

#### LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

#### SYNOPSIS

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

LIST_ENTRY(TYPE);

LIST_HEAD(HEADNAME, TYPE);

LIST_HEAD LIST_HEAD_INITIALIZER(LIST_HEAD head);

void LIST_INIT(LIST_HEAD *head);

int LIST_EMPTY(LIST_HEAD *head);

void LIST_INSERT_HEAD(LIST_HEAD *head,
                      struct TYPE *elm, LIST_ENTRY NAME);

void LIST_INSERT_BEFORE(struct TYPE *listelm,
                       struct TYPE *elm, LIST_ENTRY NAME);

void LIST_INSERT_AFTER(struct TYPE *listelm,
                      struct TYPE *elm, LIST_ENTRY NAME);

struct TYPE *LIST_FIRST(LIST_HEAD *head);

struct TYPE *LIST_NEXT(struct TYPE *elm, LIST_ENTRY NAME);

LIST_FOREACH(struct TYPE *var, LIST_HEAD *head, LIST_ENTRY NAME);
```

```
void LIST_REMOVE(struct TYPE *elm, LIST_ENTRY NAME);
```

## DESCRIPTION

These macros define and operate on doubly linked lists.

In the macro definitions, TYPE is the name of a user-defined structure, that must contain a field of type LIST\_ENTRY, named NAME. The argument HEADNAME is the name of a user-defined structure that must be declared using the macro LIST\_HEAD().

### Creation

A list is headed by a structure defined by the LIST\_HEAD() macro. This structure contains a single pointer to the first element on the list. The elements are doubly linked so that an arbitrary element can be removed without traversing the list. New elements can be added to the list after an existing element, before an existing element, or at the head of the list.

A LIST\_HEAD structure is declared as follows:

```
LIST_HEAD(HEADNAME, TYPE) head;
```

where struct HEADNAME is the structure to be defined, and struct TYPE is the type of the elements to be linked into the list. A pointer to the head of the list can later be declared as:

```
struct HEADNAME *headp;
```

(The names head and headp are user selectable.)

LIST\_ENTRY() declares a structure that connects the elements in the list.

LIST\_HEAD\_INITIALIZER() evaluates to an initializer for the list head.

LIST\_INIT() initializes the list referenced by head.

LIST\_EMPTY() evaluates to true if there are no elements in the list.

### Insertion

LIST\_INSERT\_HEAD() inserts the new element elm at the head of the list.

LIST\_INSERT\_BEFORE() inserts the new element elm before the element listelm.

LIST\_INSERT\_AFTER() inserts the new element elm after the element listelm.

### Traversal

LIST\_FIRST() returns the first element in the list, or NULL if the list is empty.

LIST\_NEXT() returns the next element in the list, or NULL if this is the last.

LIST\_FOREACH() traverses the list referenced by head in the forward direction, assigning each element in turn to var.

### Removal

LIST\_REMOVE() removes the element elm from the list.

## RETURN VALUE

LIST\_EMPTY() returns nonzero if the list is empty, and zero if the list contains at least one entry.

LIST\_FIRST(), and LIST\_NEXT() return a pointer to the first or next TYPE structure, respectively.

LIST\_HEAD\_INITIALIZER() returns an initializer that can be assigned to the list head.

## STANDARDS

BSD.

## HISTORY

4.4BSD.

## BUGS

LIST\_FOREACH() doesn't allow var to be removed or freed within the loop, as it would interfere with the traversal. LIST\_FOREACH\_SAFE(), which is present on the BSDs but is not present in glibc, fixes this limitation by allowing var to safely be removed from the list and freed from within the loop without interfering with the traversal.

## EXAMPLES

```
#include <stddef.h>

#include <stdio.h>

#include <stdlib.h>

#include <sys/queue.h>

struct entry {
    int data;

    LIST_ENTRY(entry) entries;      /* List */
};

LIST_HEAD(listhead, entry);

int
main(void)
{
    struct entry *n1, *n2, *n3, *np;

    struct listhead head;          /* List head */

    int i;

    LIST_INIT(&head);              /* Initialize the list */

    n1 = malloc(sizeof(struct entry)); /* Insert at the head */
```

```

LIST_INSERT_HEAD(&head, n1, entries);

n2 = malloc(sizeof(struct entry));    /* Insert after */

LIST_INSERT_AFTER(n1, n2, entries);

n3 = malloc(sizeof(struct entry));    /* Insert before */

LIST_INSERT_BEFORE(n2, n3, entries);

i = 0;                                /* Forward traversal */

LIST_FOREACH(np, &head, entries)

    np->data = i++;

LIST_REMOVE(n2, entries);            /* Deletion */

free(n2);

                                /* Forward traversal */

LIST_FOREACH(np, &head, entries)

    printf("%i\n", np->data);

                                /* List deletion */

n1 = LIST_FIRST(&head);

while (n1 != NULL) {

    n2 = LIST_NEXT(n1, entries);

    free(n1);

    n1 = n2;

}

LIST_INIT(&head);

exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);

}

```

SEE ALSO

insque(3), queue(7)

Linux man-pages 6.17

2025-05-17

LIST(3)