



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

\$ man mktemp.3

mktemp(3) Library Functions Manual mktemp(3)

NAME

mktemp - make a unique temporary filename

LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

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

```
char *mktemp(char *template);
```

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

mktemp():

Since glibc 2.12:

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

```
|| /* glibc >= 2.19: */ _DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

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

Before glibc 2.12:

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

DESCRIPTION

Never use this function; see BUGS.

The `mktemp()` function generates a unique temporary filename from `template`. The last six characters of `template` must be `XXXXXX` and these are replaced with a string that makes the filename unique. Since it will be modified, `template` must not be a string constant, but should be declared as a character array.

RETURN VALUE

ERRORS

ATTRIBUTES

[illegible]

STANDARDS

None.

HISTORY

4.3BSD, POSIX.1-2001. Removed in POSIX.1-2008.

BUGS

Never use `mktemp()`. Some implementations follow 4.3BSD and replace `XXXXXX` by the current process ID and a single letter, so that at most 26 different names can be returned. Since on the one hand the names are easy to guess, and on the other hand there is a race between testing whether the name exists and opening the file, every use of `mktemp()` is a security risk. The race is avoided by `mkstemp(3)` and `mkdtemp(3)`.

SEE ALSO

mktemp(1), mkdtemp(3), mkstemp(3), tmpnam(3), tmpfile(3), tmpnam(3)