



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

\$ man setgrent.3

getgrent(3) Library Functions Manual getgrent(3)

NAME

getgrent, setgrent, endgrent - get group file entry

LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

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

#include <grp.h>

struct group *getgrent(void);

void setgrent(void);

void endgrent(void);
```

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

```
setgrent():

_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500

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

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

getgrent(), endgrent():

Since glibc 2.22:

```
_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500 || _DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

glibc 2.21 and earlier

```
_XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500

|| /* Since glibc 2.12: */ _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200809L

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

DESCRIPTION

The `getgrent()` function returns a pointer to a structure containing the broken-out fields of a record in the group database (e.g., the local group file `/etc/group`, NIS, and LDAP). The first time `getgrent()` is called, it returns the first entry; thereafter, it returns successive entries.

The `setgrent()` function rewinds to the beginning of the group database, to allow repeated scans.

The `endgrent()` function is used to close the group database after all processing has been performed.

The group structure is defined in `<grp.h>` as follows:

```
struct group {
    char *gr_name;    /* group name */
    char *gr_passwd;  /* group password */
    gid_t gr_gid;     /* group ID */
    char **gr_mem;    /* NULL-terminated array of pointers
                        to names of group members */
};
```

For more information about the fields of this structure, see `group(5)`.

RETURN VALUE

The `getgrent()` function returns a pointer to a group structure, or `NULL` if there are no more entries or an error occurs.

Upon error, `errno` may be set. If one wants to check `errno` after the call, it should be set to zero before the call.

The return value may point to a static area, and may be overwritten by subsequent calls to `getgrent()`, `getgrgid(3)`, or `getgrnam(3)`. (Do not pass the returned pointer to `free(3)`.)

ERRORS

EAGAIN The service was temporarily unavailable; try again later. For NSS backends in glibc this indicates a temporary error talking to the backend. The error may correct itself; retrying later is suggested.

EINTR A signal was caught; see `signal(7)`.

EIO I/O error.

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.

