



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

\$ man timer_settime.2

timer_settime(2) System Calls Manual timer_settime(2)

NAME

timer_settime, timer_gettime - arm/disarm and fetch state of POSIX per-process timer

LIBRARY

Real-time library (librt, -lrt)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <time.h>

int timer_gettime(timer_t timerid, struct itimerspec *curr_value);

int timer_settime(timer_t timerid, int flags,
                  const struct itimerspec *restrict new_value,
                  struct itimerspec *_Nullable restrict old_value);
```

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

```
timer_settime(), timer_gettime():
    _POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 199309L
```

DESCRIPTION

timer_settime() arms or disarms the timer identified by timerid. The new_value argument is pointer to an itimerspec structure that specifies the new initial value and the new interval for the timer. The itimerspec structure is described in itimerspec(3type).

Each of the substructures of the itimerspec structure is a timespec(3) structure that allows a time value to be specified in seconds and nanoseconds. These time values are measured according to the clock that was specified when the timer was created by timer_create(2).

If new_value->it_value specifies a nonzero value (i.e., either subfield is nonzero), then

timer_settime() arms (starts) the timer, setting it to initially expire at the given time.

(If the timer was already armed, then the previous settings are overwritten.) If `new_value->it_value` specifies a zero value (i.e., both subfields are zero), then the timer is disarmed.

The `new_value->it_interval` field specifies the period of the timer, in seconds and nanosec-

onds. If this field is nonzero, then each time that an armed timer expires, the timer is reloaded from the value specified in `new_value->it_interval`. If `new_value->it_interval` specifies a zero value, then the timer expires just once, at the time specified by `it_value`.

By default, the initial expiration time specified in `new_value->it_value` is interpreted rel-

ative to the current time on the timer's clock at the time of the call. This can be modi-

fied by specifying `TIMER_ABSTIME` in flags, in which case `new_value->it_value` is interpreted

as an absolute value as measured on the timer's clock; that is, the timer will expire when

the clock value reaches the value specified by `new_value->it_value`. If the specified ab-

solute time has already passed, then the timer expires immediately, and the overrun count

(see `timer_getoverrun(2)`) will be set correctly.

If the value of the `CLOCK_REALTIME` clock is adjusted while an absolute timer based on that

clock is armed, then the expiration of the timer will be appropriately adjusted. Adjust-

ments to the `CLOCK_REALTIME` clock have no effect on relative timers based on that clock.

If `old_value` is not `NULL`, then it points to a buffer that is used to return the previous in-

terval of the timer (in `old_value->it_interval`) and the amount of time until the timer would

previously have next expired (in `old_value->it_value`).

`timer_gettime()` returns the time until next expiration, and the interval, for the timer

specified by `timerid`, in the buffer pointed to by `curr_value`. The time remaining until the

next timer expiration is returned in `curr_value->it_value`; this is always a relative value,

regardless of whether the `TIMER_ABSTIME` flag was used when arming the timer. If the value

returned in `curr_value->it_value` is zero, then the timer is currently disarmed. The timer

interval is returned in `curr_value->it_interval`. If the value returned in

`curr_value->it_interval` is zero, then this is a "one-shot" timer.

RETURN VALUE

On success, `timer_settime()` and `timer_gettime()` return 0. On error, -1 is returned, and `er?`

`errno` is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS

These functions may fail with the following errors:

`EFAULT` `new_value`, `old_value`, or `curr_value` is not a valid pointer.

EINVAL timerid is invalid.

timer_settime() may fail with the following errors:

EINVAL new_value.it_value is negative; or new_value.it_value.tv_nsec is negative or greater than 999,999,999.

STANDARDS

POSIX.1-2024.

HISTORY

Linux 2.6. POSIX.1-2001.

EXAMPLES

See timer_create(2).

SEE ALSO

timer_create(2), timer_getoverrun(2), timespec(3), time(7)

Linux man-pages 6.17

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